

Piney Woods Perspective

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Piney Woods Area Health Education Center

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Medical Community Supports Project to Save Lives

On Aug. 18, 2005, the first day of football practice at McMichael Middle School, Kevin Wallace, an eighth grader, tragically died from a heart arrhythmia. Wallace might have lived if there had been an automatic external defibrillator (AED) nearby. An AED would have given him a better chance at survival and that is what the task force wants for all children in the Nacogdoches County schools system – a better chance.

In the year since Kevin's death, the Nacogdoches Community AED Task Force formed with the intent to put AEDs in every school in Nacogdoches County. The task force is made up of representatives from Nacogdoches Memorial Hospital, Nacogdoches County EMS, Stephen F. Austin State University, Piney Woods AHEC, Nacogdoches Police Department and Joan McNett, a concerned citizen of Nacogdoches.

The founding donors for this project include: Dr. P. Guniganti, Dr. V. Pokala, Roy Blake Sr., the Dale Sisk Memorial, Nacogdoches Memorial Hospital, the Surgery Center of Nacogdoches and Nacogdoches Medical Center. A total of \$64,000 has been raised for this community project; however, another \$20,000 is needed. The funding will provide 39 AEDs for schools in Nacogdoches County as well as a CPR training program for each school.

Piney Woods AHEC is an approved training center for American Heart Association basic life support classes. As part of this project, PWAHEC, with the help of Nacogdoches County EMS, has trained 14 new CPR Instructors to train students, teachers and staff members on their campuses. PWAHEC will guide and monitor CPR and AED training programs on 18 campuses throughout the county.

On September 29, during the Nacogdoches High School homecoming ceremony, the task force presented the first installment of AEDs to Nacogdoches ISD in honor of Wallace. Also during the ceremony, the task force recognized the program's donors.

"The AEDs will be phased in to area schools," Lisa King, AED Task Force chairwoman, said. "We will be bringing each campus on board so that each school in the county will be trained and equipped with the required number of AEDs by the completion of the 2006-2007 school year."

For more information about contributing to the Nacogdoches AED program or conducting a similar program in your community you may contact Kinnie Parker at kparker@pwahec.org.



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Neelu Shirvani, dental student at the UTH-SCSA, treats a patient in the dental unit.

Healthy Smiles!

There's a dental van coming to your area!

The East Texas Health Access Network (ETHAN) has contracted with the University of Texas Health Science Center Dental Branch at Houston to provide low cost dental services to qualifying individuals of Jasper, Newton, Sabine, San Augustine and Tyler counties.

On September 20 - 22 the dental van was at the Newton First United Methodist Church. Services were provided to 32 individuals and included exams, x-rays, extractions, fillings, cleanings and other preventive treatments, valued at more than \$10,000.

Dental clinics will be held monthly at different locations in ETHAN's five county service area. Fees are based on household income.

The dental van's next stop will be in Hemphill. Call ETHAN's main office for more information and scheduling, (409) 384-2099.



Fifth Quarter Celebration a Huge Success

Nacogdoches Safe and Drug Free Parent Task Force and staff from Piney Woods AHEC hosted a Fifth Quarter celebration after the Nacogdoches High School home football game Friday, Sept. 22 from 10:30 p.m. – 12:30 a.m., at the Court Club in Nacogdoches. Approximately 300 Nacogdoches county high school students enjoyed food, fun, door prizes and music for free.

The Fifth Quarter celebration was designed to demonstrate to the community that students need a place where they can participate in events that allow them to have fun in a drug and alcohol free environment.

Piney Woods AHEC administrative assistant Rebecca Hamblett said, "I am so proud of our area high schools students. We had a very diverse student attendance; they were all fantastic. Giving them a place to meet creates unity in our communities. As the students were leaving, they were already asking us where we were going to have this the next time."

The event was made possible through donations from the community. An amazing 70 volunteers helped the night of the event. Hamblett led the donation efforts, attending community meetings such as the Nacogdoches Interagency Coalition and NSDF Key Leaders meeting.

The Parent Task Force hopes other organizations like churches or civic groups will seize the opportunity to/ host the next Fifth Quarter celebration. For more information about Fifth Quarter or the Nacogdoches Safe and Drug Free Parent Task Force, call Terrie Mayfield of NSDF at (936) 554-2446 or Rebecca Hamblett at (936) 468-6901.

Preceptor Recognition

Each year, Piney Woods AHEC coordinates community-based rotations for many medical students, residents, physician assistant students and other allied health students. In the past year, Piney Woods AHEC coordinated rotations with Baylor College of Medicine, The University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston (UTMB) and The University of North Texas Health Science Center (UNT), as well as rotations for medical students from Tulane University who were displaced by Hurricane Katrina.

These rotations would not be possible without the dedication and willingness from local physicians, physician assistants and other allied health professionals, as well as local hospitals and clinics, that give their time and effort for the education of the next generation of health care professionals.

"Piney Woods AHEC is fortunate to have a wonderful group of preceptors in our community willing to teach. Without their support, the placement of over 50 students in our area this past year would not have been possible," says Heather Perkins, community-based education program coordinator.

Piney Woods AHEC would like to recognize and thank the following professionals and their staff for hosting students during the past year: Dr. Mary Barnette, Dr. Philip LaBarbera, Dr. Larry Walker, Dr. Modupe Sokunbi, Dr. K. Laxman, Dr. Shelia Hill, Dr. Lance Sloan, Dr. Charles Fougousse, Dr. Martin Gilliland, Dr. Joseph Goin & Lewis Landsman, PA-C, Dr. Aaron Polk, TDJC/UTMB Correctional Managed Care- Fred Huff, PA-C; Angelina Counties & Cities Health District- Ed Clark, PA-C; Cushing Rural Health Clinic, Gary Norman, PA-C, Nacogdoches Memorial Hospital, Nacogdoches Medical Center and Memorial Health System of East Texas-Lufkin.



Germ Warfare: Fighting the Flu

The spread of germs is a hot topic this year with the current alert for pandemic flu. We have read articles in the paper and seen news bulletins on TV, but many people do not really understand what a pandemic flu actually means. Equally important is flu season when we often see large numbers of students missing school. Piney Woods AHEC has been working hard to help schools prepare for flu season by presenting lessons on how to keep germs from spreading in schools and at home.

We want to help prevent the spread of flu by teaching children the proper way to wash their hands - the most effective way to keep from spreading germs. Through Germ Busters students learn about the places germs are found and how to get rid of them. The students also learn how and when to wash their hands. A handout that describes the proper hand washing steps also is given to each student to take home and share with family members.

PWAHEC has presented Germ Busters for all primary students in Diboll ISD and Neches ISD. Information also was presented on pandemic flu and ways to prevent the spread of germs to Central ISD staff during their August in-service. Schools in Nacogdoches ISD and Lufkin ISD are scheduled to participate in Germ Busters in the future.

If you would like to schedule a time to present Germ Busters to your class or group, please call Kelly Floyd at (936) 468-6939 or e-mail at kfloyd@pwahec.org.

October is National Breast Cancer Awareness Month

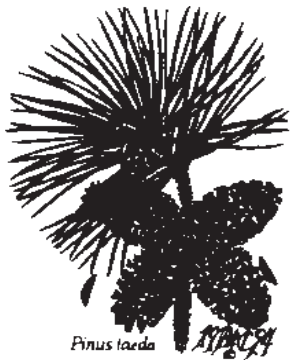


Tell your mother, sister, aunt, grandmother and friends about mammography.

www.cancer.gov

Piney Woods Perspective

Continuing Education Opportunities



Pinus taeda



10/26 - 10/27

The Road to Excellence: Building Healthier Communities

Texas Public Health Association
Waco, Texas
Contact: (254) 750-5450

10/27

Sixth Annual Neuroconference

Nacogdoches Medical Center
Nacogdoches, Texas
Contact: (936) 568-3359

10/27

Health Information Technology

Texas Health Institute
Austin, Texas
Contact: (512) 279-3910

10/28 - 10/29

Advanced Cardiovascular Life Support

Stephen F. Austin State University
Nacogdoches, Texas
Contact: (936) 468-6901

11/1 - 11/3

2006 Texas Cardiovascular Disease Summit

Texas Public Health Association
Austin, Texas
www.texaspha.org

Health as a Human Right, 57th Annual Meeting

Society for Public Health Education
Boston, Mass.
www.sophe.org

11/10 - 11/11

Resuscitation Science Symposium

American Heart Association
Chicago, Ill.
www.americanheart.org

11/16 - 11/18

2006 National Rural Women's Health Conference Expanding the Agenda for Rural Mental Health Services Research: Focus on the Rural Woman

San Antonio, Texas
Contact:

www.hmc.psu.edu/ce/RWH2006
or (717) 531-6483

11/19 - 11/22

Texas EMS Conference 2006

Texas Department of State Health Services
Dallas, Texas
www.nrha.org

12/8

Health Literacy: Improving Clear Health Communication for Better Health Outcomes

National Rural Health Association
Austin, Texas
www.nrha.org

2007

1/13 - 1/14

Advanced Cardiovascular Life Support

Stephen F. Austin State University
Nacogdoches, Texas
Contact: (936) 468-6901



For CE information 24/7, visit our newly developed Continuing Education Events Calendar at www.pwahec.org

1/26

Cancer Survivorship for the Healthcare Professional

Nurse Oncology Education Program
Nacogdoches, Texas
Contact: (800) 515-6770

2/5

Regional Health Workforce Diversity Conference

Dallas/Fort Worth AHEC
Dallas, Texas
www.hwdc.org

Online Education

Working with Case Management: Roles, Benefits and Improved Outcomes

MSU Nursing/Michigan State AHEC
www.nursing.msu.edu/ahecce1

Texas Webinar Series

Texas Hospital Association
www.thaonline.org

2006 Telephone Workshops

Telephone Education Workshop
CancerCare Connect
www.cancercare.org

10/31: Updates on Cutaneous Lymphoma

11/9: Progress in the Treatment of Lung Cancer

11/10: Updates on Cutaneous Lymphoma, Part II

11/15: The Future Role of Cancer Vaccines

11/17: Head and Neck Cancer

11/29: Breast Cancer Treatment

12/1: Caring for Someone with Colon Cancer

12/5: Advancement in the Treatment of Lung Cancer

12/19: Chronic Myelogenous Leukemia
12/20: Breast Cancer



Piney Woods AHEC

info@pwahec.org

You may contact the staff at the following locations:

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National Provider Identifier

The Administrative Simplification provisions of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 require the Department of Health and Human Services to establish national standards for electronic health care transactions and national identifiers for providers, health plans and employers. Adopting these standards will improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the nation's health care system by encouraging the widespread use of electronic data interchange in health care.

The National Provider Identifier (NPI) must be used in standard health care transactions no later than May 23, 2007, by covered health care providers, health plans and health clearinghouses.

The identifier helps to ensure that medical claims are processed on time and payments are correctly made. The NPI is a 10-digit, numeric identifier that does not expire or change and is administered by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS).

Health care providers are urged to apply for the NPI well before May 22, 2007. Legacy identifiers will not be accepted after that date; however, small health plans have until May 23, 2008 to comply. Once a covered health care provider has an NPI, it must share the NPI with any entity that needs it to identify the covered health care provider in a standard transaction.

Health care providers may obtain their NPI in one of three ways:

- Apply online by using the web (<https://NPPES.cms.hhs.gov>);
- Call the NPI Enumerator, (800) 465-3203, and request a paper NPI application form, complete it and mail it back to the address on the form; or
- Apply for a bulk enumeration, which allows an Electronic File Interchange Organization (EFIO) approved by CMS to obtain a number of providers' NPIs.

For more details about NPI, visit www.cms.hhs.gov/NationalProvIdentStand/.

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

Life Support Courses

10/20, 11/3, 11/17

**Basic Life Support
Health Care Provider**

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

10/27, 11/3, 11/17

**Basic Life Support
Health Care Provider**

Angelina College
Community Services
Lufkin, Texas
Contact: (936) 633-5206

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

Non-Profit Organization
Permit No. 1
Postage Paid
Nacogdoches, TX 75961

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