

THE COALITION VOICE

**A newsletter of the
Texas Comprehensive Cancer Control Coalition
March 2006**

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NEWS MAKERS

Dr. Foxhall Honored for Coalition Service

Dr. Lewis Foxhall, vice president for health policy at University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, was presented an award at the quarterly meeting of the Texas Comprehensive Cancer Control Coalition in February. Dr. Mary Lou Adams, current chair of the Coalition, presented the award that honored Dr. Foxhall's outstanding leadership during his two-year tenure as chair of the Coalition.

Pictured at right: Dr. Mary Lou Adams presents a service award to Dr. Lewis Foxhall in Austin.



March is Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month

Colon cancer is one cancer we can avoid with regular screening and a healthy lifestyle and this month we aim to increase awareness of this highly preventable disease. The American Cancer Society (ACS) website has a wealth of comprehensive information on colon cancer in Texas. Tailored information is available on the ACS website for the public, medical professionals, employers, and faith-based communities. Visit www.cancer.org/coloncancertx. Asian language materials are available as well as culturally appropriate materials for the African-American and Hispanic communities.

NEWS FROM COALITION PARTNERS

2006 Texas Comprehensive Cancer Control Coalition Meeting Dates

May 11, Austin
August 24, Austin
November 9, Austin

Diagnosing Disparities

Dr. Mary Lou Adams, chair of the Texas Comprehensive Cancer Control Coalition and professor at the University of Texas at Austin School of Nursing, was recently featured in an article on the University of Texas website. The full article, "Diagnosing Disparities," is available by going to www.utexas.edu and clicking on "read this story" button to reach a link to the "2006 features," where the article is archived. *Pictured at right: Dr. Mary Lou Adams meets with a patient at the Community Women's Wellness Center. Photo courtesy of Christina Murrey, University of Texas Office of Public Affairs.*



TCC Funds One Additional Project in the TC3SP

In December 2005, the Texas Cancer Council funded a new program called *Texas Community Coalitions for Cancer Survivorship (TC3SP)*. Four projects were funded in December. They are located in Ft. Worth, Longview, McAllen and Lubbock. One additional project was funded in February. The newest project is located at the YWCA in Lubbock and will focus on the psychosocial needs of cancer patients in underserved populations. Both Lubbock projects will work closely together and will work through a local coalition to address the needs of cancer patients.

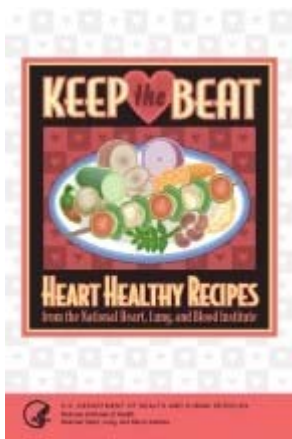
Valley News Caregiver Grant

Newspapers in Hidalgo and Cameron County will feature a story on a couple that attends a support group facilitated by Norma Castillo, a social worker from the University of Texas Medical Branch (UTMB) clinic in McAllen. In the interview with the newspaper reporter, the couple discusses their feelings of love, frustration, disappointment, loneliness, sadness, and pain of living with cancer. The patient and her spouse are regular attendees at the monthly support group meetings because they value the opportunity to share their feelings with others who struggle with similar issues and offer support to those newly diagnosed with cancer. The informal support group meetings, held in Spanish, have been a success with attendance growing each month.

Valley Colorectal Screening Information and Services Grant

Norma Castillo was featured in a "medical minute" segment for Televista, Channel 7, in Matamoros, Mexico. *Tu Salud Si Cuenta (Your Health Does Count)* will air in March and reach populations in Mexico and the Rio Grande Valley. Ms. Castillo's segment discussed how nutrition and exercise relate to colon cancer, as well as her own experience with her colonoscopy exam. These segments were made possible through a partnership with the University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston, School of Public Health.

March, National Nutrition Month®, focuses attention on the importance of making informed food choices and developing sound eating habits. Why not take a few minutes to see how you can help control chronic disease risk factors through food choices? You'll find that what's good for your health can be great for your taste buds! Click the links below for more information or to order these cookbooks from the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI) during National Nutrition Month®.



**Keep the Beat:
Heart Healthy Recipes**

You don't have to lose flavor to "keep the beat." Enjoy more than 100 heart healthy, taste-tested recipes sure to please. Also includes how to keep the "heart" in old family favorites and fast facts on fiber, fat, and salt.

Order item #2921 at <http://email.nhlbihin.net> for \$4.00 each.

The Esperanza Project

"Living in Wellness" from El Paso will be brought to McAllen in March. Isabel and Anibal Olague will bring their training to the Valley where it will be offered to health care professionals, social workers, nurses, and others. "Living in Wellness" offers best practices for improving the quality of life of people living with cancer and other life-threatening illnesses, as well providing information on self-care for caregivers and families.

NOEP Area Work Group

Shirley LaVergne, Nurse Oncology Education Program (NOEP) special projects coordinator, facilitated a meeting at the UTMB McAllen clinic in February. The Valley Area Work Group (AWG) consisted of representatives from UTMB, UT Pan American Nursing, and Valley Baptist Medical Center in Harlingen. The work group focused on topics such as chemotherapy scholarships, educational needs in south Texas, the popularity of NOEP's independent studies, upcoming conferences in the Valley, and a colorectal cancer initiative. If you'd like to become a member of the NOEP AWG in McAllen, contact Norma Castillo at (877) 626-7400.

Austin Mayor Honors GENaustin Youth Volunteer

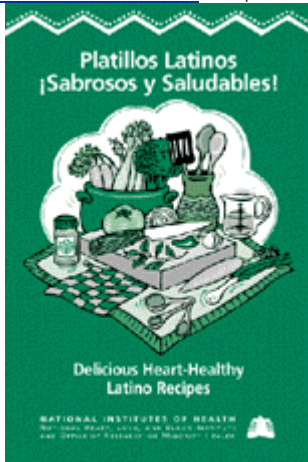
oriGENal voice youth volunteer and advisory board member, Estelle Garza, was acknowledged on February 16, by Austin Mayor Will Wynn with the United Way's Volunteer of the Month award (sponsored by AMD) for her dedication and service to GENaustin. Estelle has been an active participant in oriGENal voice for the past year and a half. Last year she played a leadership role in oriGENal voice at Dobie Middle School in Austin and this year, she is working with her peers as a key member of the girl advisory board at Travis High School. A Westlake senior, Estelle has been a spokesperson for oriGENal voice, talking about the dangers of tobacco on KOOP-FM's Youth Spin program and in an article in the Daily Texan. Estelle's dedication and ambition earned her early admission at Southern Methodist University. Her goal is to become a biomedical engineer. Following Estelle's award, Mayor Wynn proclaimed February 17, 2006, "oriGENal voice Day" in Austin. He thanked oriGENal voice for helping girls assert their individuality. Way to go girls! Pictured above: Austin Mayor Will Wynn presents Estelle Garza with the United Way's Volunteer of the Month award at Austin City Hall.



**Delicious Heart Healthy
Latino Recipes**

Learn to cook some of your favorite traditional Latino dishes in a heart healthy way. This bilingual cookbook contains 23 tested recipes that cut down on fat, especially saturated fat, cholesterol, and sodium but not on taste. These delicious recipes are destined to become family favorites.

Order item #4049 at <http://email.nhlbihin.net> for \$3.00 each.



M.D. Anderson Events

Run for the Rose

Friends and family of television's *Houston Medical* star Marnie Rose, M.D., are honoring her legacy with the fourth annual 5K Run for the Rose at the Reliant Park Astrodome in Houston on Sunday, April 2 at 8:00 a.m. The run benefits brain tumor research at The University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center and pediatric initiatives at Memorial Hermann Children's Hospital. Festivities will include a way for motorcycle enthusiasts to ride in support of the Dr. Marnie Rose Foundation. Ridin' for the Rose revs up at 11:00 a.m. at the Reliant Park Astrodome, with bikers arriving later that afternoon at West of the Brazos in Damon, Texas. Entry forms for both events are available by calling race headquarters at (713) 993-9288 and logging on to www.runfortherose.com. All entrants will receive a commemorative t-shirt.

First Annual S.C.O.P.E.

(Sprint for Colorectal Oncology Prevention and Education)

The public is invited to participate in The University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center's first annual S.C.O.P.E. (Sprint for Colorectal Oncology Prevention and Education) 5K fun run/walk. The event takes place on Sunday, March 26 at 8:00 a.m. on the corner of Holcombe and Bertner in the Texas Medical Center in Houston. Children also are invited to participate in the S.C.O.P.E. 1K fun run/walk. For more information, call (713) 745-8098. To register online, visit www.signmeupsports.com.

**NCI Accepting Applications for Director's
Consumer Liaison Group**

The National Cancer Institute (NCI) is pleased to announce that applications are now being accepted for five positions on the NCI Directors Consumer Liaison Group (DCLG). We encourage all qualified persons to submit an application package postmarked by March 31, 2006. More information, including directions for how to complete an application package, can be found at:

<http://deainfo.nci.nih.gov/advisory/dclg/applications/DCLGmemberApplication2006.pdf>.

Completed application packages should be sent to:

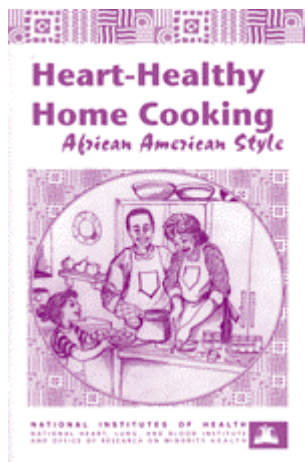
Palladian Partners, Inc.
Attn: DCLG 2006 Selection Process
1010 Wayne Avenue, Suite 1200
Silver Spring, MD 20910

RESOURCES

Heart Healthy Home Cooking African-American Style

Get this great resource for community members or patients, with favorite African-American dishes that are prepared in ways to protect against heart disease and stroke. Includes 20 tested recipes such as spicy southern barbecued chicken and sweet potato pie.

Order item #3792 at
<http://email.nhlbihin.net>
for \$3.00 each



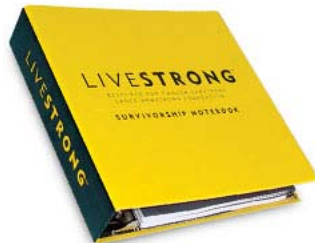
Komen Foundation's Texas Affiliates Fight for Early Detection Funding

In preparation for the next state legislative session, several Texas affiliates of the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation will be working collaboratively to garner support for increased state funding of the *Texas Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Program*, which offers free breast and cervical cancer screening services to low-income and uninsured women. At the federal level, Texas Komen Affiliates are also working hard to support reauthorization of the *National Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program*, which funds the *Texas Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Program*. As part of Komen Champions for the Cure™, the Komen Foundation's innovative and successful public policy program, Texas affiliates are meeting with state legislators and members of Congress, participating in public policy trainings, organizing press events and recruiting and mobilizing online activists at www.ActNowEndBreastCancer.org in order to win policymaker support for greater funding in the fight against breast cancer. Contact Rebecca Birch of the Austin Affiliate of the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation at (512) 751-1389 or komentxadvocacy@yahoo.com if you would like to become more involved with Komen Champions for the Cure™.

The LIVESTRONG™ Survivorship Notebook is a useful tool to help cancer survivors organize and guide their cancer experience. The portable, three-ring binder contains a variety of information covering a full range of physical, emotional and practical survivorship topics. *The Survivorship Notebook* contains a core set of survivorship topics, tools and stories.

Survivorship topics are organized by physical, emotional and practical information. Sample topics include:

- Physical** – Healthy Behaviors – Fatigue – Aftereffects of Cancer Treatment
- Emotional** – Hope – Fear of Recurrence – Emotional Effects of Cancer
- Practical** – Planning Your Financial Future – Communicating with Your Health Care Team



Survivorship tools are worksheets that can help prepare for medical appointments, track medications, treatments, and keep insurance and financial information in one place.

Survivorship stories are stories told by real survivors about their experiences with cancer. Every survivor knows something that can benefit another survivor; these stories are full of wisdom and first-hand information. These stories offer comfort, knowledge and opinions that only survivors can give.

To order copies of the *Survivorship Notebook*, visit www.livestrong.org. If you would like to place an order for 20 or more notebooks, please send your request to notebookbulkorders@laf.org or follow the link on the LAF website. The notebooks are free, however shipping and handling charges apply. If you would like to receive a sample copy of the notebook (LAF will cover the cost of shipping), please email Kelli Beach at kelli.beach@laf.org and type "Coalition NL – NB Offer" in the subject line. Include your name, organization and mailing address (no PO Box).

CNNT Resources

Cancer Nutrition Network for Texans Releases New training DVD to Communities

The communities of Tyler, McAllen, Amarillo, Victoria, Richardson, and Ft. Worth have requested the CNNT DVD and are planning to or have utilized the DVD in their patient support groups. If your community program has an existing support group and you would like to obtain a copy of our DVD and workshop facilitator's guide, please contact Libby Smith at (409) 747-2239. The DVD covers cancer nutrition and symptom management for the cancer patient, caregiver topics, transition planning, and finding the best information.

Midland/Odessa Cancer Centers Team up with CNNT to Provide Respite Program to Cancer Patients and Caregivers

The *CNNT* and *Faith in Action* recently visited Midland/Odessa with intentions of helping the community apply for a grant to obtain additional funding for their very successful respite care program. The *CNNT* began working with the Midland/Odessa area almost 2 years ago, and today, the community runs Gifts of Hope, a nonprofit organization that provides respite care to cancer patients and their families in Midland/Odessa and the surrounding areas. They provide services such as rides to appointments, assistance with bills, meals, and counseling services. They have also created the Hope House that provides a place to stay for cancer patients who travel to visit the Midland and Odessa cancer centers. The community has formed this program under the leadership of Mary Collier with Texas Oncology, P.A. with assistance from local faith-based organizations, health care agencies, area centers, and the *CNNT*. They currently have an exceptional base of volunteers, many of whom are cancer survivors themselves. For more information, please contact Libby Smith at (409) 747-2239 or easmith@utmb.edu.



with host
Judy Foreman



HealthTalk Live

Hosted by Peabody Award-winning and nationally syndicated newspaper columnist Judy Foreman, *HealthTalk Live* is a weekly show that will explore issues and concerns that affect anyone who lives with a chronic condition such as asthma, cancer or MS. They'll have expert guests and take calls and email questions from listeners. Weekly live programs will begin on **Wednesday, March 8**. There is no pre-registration for these programs, so you can just drop by www.healthtalk.com/live every Wednesday night at 8:30 p.m. EST for a new topic. You don't have to be a HealthTalk member to listen.

Transitions

- **Davor Vugrin, M.D.**, was voted chair-elect of the Texas Comprehensive Cancer Control Coalition February 24, 2006. Dr. Vugrin is a clinical professor at Texas Tech University in Lubbock.
- **Lynne Nguyen, M.P.H.**, was voted member-at-large of the Texas Comprehensive Cancer Control Coalition February 24, 2006. Lynne is program director of the National Cancer Institute's Cancer Information Service located at M.D. Anderson Cancer Center in Houston.

CONFERENCES, TRAINING & WORKSHOPS

➤ **March 16-17, 2006**
Dialogue for Action in
Colorectal Cancer Screening:
Looking at the Big Picture While
Keeping Our
Eyes on the Ball.
Presented by Cancer Research
and Prevention Foundation.
Renaissance Harborplace Hotel,
Baltimore, Maryland. For
program questions call
Stephanie Guiffre
(703) 830-8599.

➤ **April 7-9, 2006**
8th Annual National African-
American Breast Cancer
Conference.
Presented by Sisters Network,
Inc. Houston Intercontinental
Hotel, Houston, TX.
CEU, CHES credits available.
To register, call (866) 781-1808
or visit
www.sistersnetworkinc.org

➤ **April 19-23, 2006**
10th Biennial Symposium on
Minorities, the Medically
Underserved, and Cancer.
Presented by the Intercultural
Cancer Council.
Omni Shoreham Hotel,
Washington, DC.
www.iccnetwork.org

NOEP Continuing Education 2006 Conference Schedule

For Nurses in All Fields of Practice

March 17: The Ins and Outs of Cancer Care, The Woodlands.

March 31-April 1: Oncology Certified Nurse (OCN) Review Course, Lubbock.

April 7: Cancer Survivorship, Weslaco.

April 7- 8: Oncology Certified Nurse (OCN) Review Course, Ft. Worth.

April 22: Leading the Fight Against Colorectal Cancer: The Nurse's Important Role, Lubbock and again in Tyler **May 11.**

For more information or to register, go to www.noeptexas.org or call (800) 515-6770. NEW! NOEP now accepts credit card registrations at www.acteva.com/go/noeptexas.

➤ **April 7, 2006**
STOPN's Nicotine Cessation Conference, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.,
Wichita County Health Department, Wichita Falls, TX. CEU credits
available. Pre-registration required for attendance. \$65.00 per person to
include one-day seminar, classroom materials and lunch. Contact
Rebecca Miller at (512) 869-4223 or email info@nosplit.com.

Thank you for your interest in the Texas Comprehensive Cancer Control Coalition. Please direct your newsletter ideas to Stephanie Uecker, suecker@tcc.state.tx.us or call (512) 438-3096. If you would like to be removed from this mailing list, please contact Stephanie at the above address.