

THE COALITION VOICE

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

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NEWS MAKERS

A Lion in the House Draws Near

Coming to *Independent Lens* on PBS June 21 and 22, 2006, the eagerly anticipated documentary, *A Lion in the House*, offers an unprecedented look at the cancer journeys of five young people and their families over a six-year period. Award-winning filmmakers Steven Bognar and Julia Reichert bring audiences face to face with the uncertainty of the entire cancer experience and its rippling effects on family, community, and professional caregivers. At the core of *A Lion in the House* is the resilience, courage, and wisdom of five extraordinary young people.



The national broadcast of *A Lion in the House* seeks to galvanize public attention around childhood cancer.

The Independent Television Service (ITVS) community engagement campaign brings to this effort a committed group of national partners and a broad array of stakeholders to spur a national dialogue, support families and caregivers and inspire local and regional action. The campaign seeks to build bridges between families in need and communities of support.

On June 9, a dinner and panel discussion will take place at the Stephen F. Austin Intercontinental Hotel in downtown Austin focusing on this documentary. Panelists will include Bill Stotesbery, CEO of KLRU, Austin's PBS Affiliate; Steve Bognar, filmmaker; and Ruth Rechis-Oelker, from the Lance Armstrong Foundation. The panel will be moderated by Frederick S. Huang, MD, a physician from the film. For more information, visit www.itvs.org/outreach/lioninthehouse.

(Pictured above, clockwise from the top: Tim and Marietha Woods at home; Judy and Jackie Lougheed take time for a hug; mother and son, Regina and Al Fields share a moment. Photos Copyright, 2005, INDEPENDENT TELEVISION SERVICE, Inc. All Rights Reserved.)

NEWS FROM COALITION PARTNERS

*National Cancer Survivor's
Day is June 4*
www.ncsdf.org

Dr. Carol Rice Receives Distinguished Achievement Award

On May 2, Carol Rice, Ph.D., R.N., was presented with the Distinguished Achievement Award by the Texas A&M Former Students Association in recognition of her outstanding health outreach activities across the state. A campus-wide committee composed of faculty, students, and staff chooses award recipients. Dr. Rice is the project director for two Texas Cancer Council-funded projects: *Cancer Risk Reduction Education* and *Reducing Tobacco Use in Rural Counties*.



(Pictured above: Dr. Carol Rice holds her award.)

LIVESTRONG Summit

The Lance Armstrong Foundation (LAF) recently announced its inaugural **LIVESTRONG** Summit, scheduled for October 27-29, 2006, in Austin, Texas. Through the **LIVESTRONG** Summit, the LAF plans to lead a survivorship movement to broaden awareness and impact the unmet physical, emotional, and practical needs of people living with cancer.

LIVESTRONG Summit delegates will develop goals and action plans to affect change around the needs of cancer survivors. After the summit, delegates will apply the action plans in their own communities. The LAF seeks a geographic, ethnic, and socioeconomic cross-section of



LIVESTRONG
SUMMIT

Americans affected by various cancer types who are willing to champion the cause of cancer survivorship. Summit delegates are responsible for a \$115 conference fee that covers conference materials and meals. For accepted applicants in need of financial assistance, the LAF will offer conference fee and/or travel scholarships. Once accepted, summit delegates in need of financial assistance are strongly encouraged to apply for scholarships.

Anyone who is interested in participating in the **LIVESTRONG** Summit and has been affected by cancer – from those recently diagnosed to post-treatment to caregivers, family and friends – may apply at www.livestrong.org/summit.

Colorectal Cancer Training is a Success in Tyler

The Nurse Oncology Education Program (NOEP) partnered with the Smith County Comprehensive Cancer Coalition to present a successful conference in Tyler on May 11. Over 100 nurses from all fields of practice attended "Leading the Fight against Colorectal Cancer: The Nurse's Important Role." Topics included prevention, detection, treatment, and survivorship of colorectal cancer--the third most common cancer in men and women. Texas State House Representative Leo Berman, who lost his wife to cancer six years ago, wrote a letter in support of the conference. The presenters were outstanding and a special panel of colorectal cancer survivors shared their personal experiences. One participant wrote, "I have been a nurse for 21 years and have attended many seminars. This is one of the best ever. Good material, nice workbook, very informative!" NOEP extends its sincere thanks to everyone who helped make this event possible.



**2006 Texas Comprehensive
Cancer Control Coalition
Meeting Dates**

**August 24-Austin
November 9-Austin**

www.texascancercoalition.org

(Pictured above left to right: Shirley LaVergne of NOEP, Jane Osmond of the Texas Cancer Council, and program presenters Machel McDowell MSN, RN, CGRN, FNP, Carolyn Harvey RN, PhD, Teresa Jones RN, and Kathy Froiland MSN, RN, AOCN.)

UTMB McAllen Helping Texans Conquer Cancer

With funds from the *Texas Conquers Cancer License Plate Program*, UTMB in McAllen has been able to help several cancer patients with travel expenses associated with their treatment. Paying for lodging, transportation, and meals can be a tremendous hardship for cancer patients who are already physically, emotionally, and financially drained due to their illness. Thanks to funds from the *Texas Conquers Cancer License Plate Program*, this hardship has eased somewhat.



Money raised through the sale of the *Texas Conquer Cancer* specialty license plate goes to Texas non-profits that assist cancer patients and their families with support services.

For information about purchasing your own *Texas Conquer Cancer* license plate, visit www.tcc.state.tx.us.

National Men's Health Week is
June 12-18
www.menshealthweek.org

ACS Great American Eat Right Challenge

The American Cancer Society (ACS) is taking steps to raise public awareness of the connection between weight and cancer risk (65% of Americans are overweight and 30% are obese.) The Great American Eat Right Challenge is designed to empower the public with tools, tips, and support to help reduce cancer risk by maintaining a healthy weight and adopting healthy eating habits. Nationwide advertising will include a series of print ads that will be featured in *People* and *Oprah* magazines targeting women ages 25-54 that are inclined to change their dietary habits. The ads feature vintage boxing posters and an everyday woman as a boxer paired against her food "foe." Check out the new website at www.cancer.org/eatright to create your own fight poster and encourage your friends to do the same.

TCC Receives Congressional Recognition

In April, Silvestre Reyes, a member of the U.S. House of Representatives from El Paso, honored the Texas Cancer Council with a Certificate of Special Congressional Recognition for its outstanding and invaluable service to the community. Isabel Olague of the *Esperanza Project* and Dr. Pat Cane of Capacitar International were also honored for their work with cancer patients and caregivers.

RESOURCES

Free Online CNE: Skin Cancer Facts (Newly Updated)

As we enjoy the summer weather in Texas, we should remember skin cancer awareness. According to the American Cancer Society, more than 1 million cases of basal cell or squamous cell cancers occur annually. Skin cancer is the most common and most rapidly increasing cancer, but it is nearly 100% curable if detected early! Nurses can update their knowledge of skin cancer prevention and early detection with *NOEP's Skin Cancer Facts* study module, now available free online for one contact hour of CNE. Click here to get started: <http://www.noep texas.org/ce/onlinece.asp>.

Spiritual Pathways Weblog

The MD Anderson Cancer Center chaplaincy department just inaugurated an interactive blogger website for cancer patients, their caregivers, and the clergy as part of the community outreach of its department. It is a tool for persons affected by cancer who may not have an immediate support community or who appreciate exchanging information, spiritual, and emotional support through an on-line community. It also provides access to information about cancer and spiritual and pastoral care to members of the clergy, in particular those that live outside of the Greater Houston area. Visit the blogger site at: www.mdanderson.org/departments/chaplaincy/. Just click on the spiritual pathways link or on the community link and you will be directed to the blogger.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The Physician Oncology Education Program to Host “ABC’s of Childhood Cancer” June 9 & 10 in Austin

The June 9 portion of the event will consist of a dinner and panel discussion at the Stephen F. Austin Intercontinental Hotel in Austin focusing on the PBS documentary, *A Lion in the House*.

The June 10 portion of the conference will focus on continuing education for healthcare professionals. Topics include: the history and significance of childhood cancer survivorship; model of long-term care for childhood survivors; medical complications for survivors; state of the art therapy for childhood cancer survivors; and psychological support for the patient and family.

Reservations are required. For more information, contact Laura Wells at laura.wells@texmed.org. To register, visit www.acteva.com/go/tmapoep.

NOEP 2006 Training Dates

June 6-7 ONS Chemotherapy/Biotherapy Course, Arlington.
June 9 Pain, Nutrition, and Oral Care (w/DOEP), El Paso.
June 15 School Nurse Institute, Waco.
August 15-17 Texas Rural Health Association Conference, Austin.
September 15 Oncology Update, Paris.
September 22 Breast and Gynecological Cancers, Laredo.

For information or to register for NOEP training, visit www.noeptexas.org or call (800) 515-6770.

CNNT Presents: “Respite Care Networks” in Tyler

The *Cancer Nutrition Network for Texans (CNNT)* will be in Tyler on June 22 at HealthPark Plaza located at 1327 Troup Hwy in Tyler, TX. The *CNNT* will be working with the Longview and Tyler communities to develop a Respite Care Program. Registration forms are available by contacting Rebecca Haling at (903) 595-3942 ext. 255 or Erin Brooks at (409) 772-9136.

Thank you for your interest in the Texas Comprehensive Cancer Control Coalition. Please direct your newsletter feedback to Stephanie Uecker, suecker@tcc.state.tx.us or call (512) 438-3096. News items are collected from a variety of sources including the media and our cancer-control partners throughout the state.

10th Annual Interdisciplinary Approach to Symptom Control, Palliative, and Hospice Care Conference

October 7-8, 2006 at MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston.

The following board reviews will be offered:

- Palliative Care Board Review – October 5-6, 2006 (ABHPM Board Review)
- Hospice and Palliative Generalist Nurse Certification Review October 6, 2006

Contact Veronica Kathukya at (713) 745-4125 or vmkathuky@mdanderson.org to register.
