



UNCG Gerontology Research Network

Facilitating Transdisciplinary Aging-related Research at UNCG

March 17, 2009 • Issue 13

ANNOUNCEMENT

Spring Health Fairs *Directions Attached*

If you and your students will be attending, PLEASE email Laurie Kennedy-Malone (Laurie_Kennedy-Malone@uncg.edu) right away with what you will be doing and which dates. We need to let the sites know ASAP. Please note that on March 19th this is a group of older Vietnamese adults. We will have an interpreter. Questions: 336-334-5012

March 17: Mt Zion Church 1301 Alamance Church Road Site Mgr J. Richmond 275-1543

March 19: Elm Towers 701 S Elm Street, High Point, NC Site Mgr B. Stone 883-1700

March 24: Burnettes Chapel 1201 Burnett's Chapel Road Site Mgr L. Coins 674-0741

March 26: Greensboro Senior Center Dorothy Bartol Center 301 E. Washington Street-Site Mgr N. Smith 373-4816

March 31: Gibsonville: 400 Steele Street, Gibsonville, NC Site Mgr G. Rumley 449-7650

Institute on Aging Seminar is scheduled for:

THURSDAY, MARCH 19th, here at the UNC IOA 720 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., 2nd floor Conference Room, 3:00-4:30 p.m.

SPEAKER: Bei Wu, Ph.D., Gerontology Program, School of Graduate Studies, UNC Greensboro

TOPIC: "Ethnic Differences in Oral Health Among Older Americans"

This seminar is free and open to the public. Please help us spread the word.

LOCAL

Mental Health Association in Greensboro Calendar of Events *further information attached*

March 21 - ARTitudes 10am - 3pm

27 - Guilford County Mental Health Coalition Meeting, 9am at Family Service of the Piedmont

28 - The Human Race, 9am at Grimsley High School

April 3 - Regional Mental Health Conference: See the Change...Be the Change. 8am at The Empire Room, Downtown Greensboro.

10 - Good Friday -- Office closed

24 - Guilford County Mental Health Coalition, 9am at The Association

May Don't forget that May is Mental Health Month ...details forthcoming!

2009 Regional Mental Health Conference

-Friday, April 3 at the Empire Room in Downtown Greensboro

-This year's theme, "See the Change...Be the Change," is a call to excellence being issued by the Association. We have many exceptional speakers scheduled to address the mental health challenges of college students, individuals with substance abuse and mental health disorders, people experiencing homelessness, and caregivers, including those in the faith communities and helping professions. Other topics include cultural competency and successful advocacy.

Green Burial Author to Speak about Natural Alternatives to Modern Funeral at Greensboro Symposium

- "When Death Knocks: A Community Symposium" will open Friday, March 27 at 6:30 p.m. in Greensboro, N.C., with a presentation on "green" burial by environmental journalist Mark Harris.

-The event will be held at the First Lutheran Church, 3600 W. Friendly Ave, in Greensboro. It is free and open to the public. Donations will be accepted at the door.

-"Green burial looks to return one's remains to the elements, as directly and simply as possible," says Mark Harris, author of *Grave Matters: A Journey Through the Modern Funeral Industry to a Natural Way of Burial* (2007, Scribner). "Avoiding chemical embalming and fancy caskets, elaborate and costly funerals, it takes a natural, economic and highly personal approach to death and burial that was once standard practice in this country."

STATE

Project Compassion Presents: The Unbroken Circle: Exploring Spirituality During Illness and End of Life

-Saturday, March 28, 2009, 9:30 am-12:30 pm at the United Church of Chapel Hill, 1321 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. Chapel Hill, NC.

-Illness impacts every aspect of life, including spirituality. This symposium will help participants explore spiritual perspectives around illness and end of life and learn ways to support themselves and others. James L. Brooks, author of *The Unbroken Circle: A Toolkit for Congregations around Illness, End of Life and Grief*, will offer a keynote address featuring this new publication from the Duke Institute on Care at the End of Life, the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization and Project Compassion. A facilitated panel of spiritual leaders will address diverse perspectives on spirituality, illness and end of life.

-Participants will use tools and resources from The Unbroken Circle for personal reflection and small group interaction. Registration cost is \$20 for Participants and \$10 for Seniors/Students who register before March 20. Go to www.project-compassion.org or Call 919 402-1844 To Register or For More Information.

Legislative Update for Friends of Residents in Long Term Care *document attached*

Information from February 27, 2009 By Paula A. Wolf, Paulatics, LLC

Document Includes: This Week in General Assembly, Bills of Interest, and Calendar of Events

Aging Workforce Initiatives, UNC Institute on Aging:

-We are delighted to announce that Myra Beatty, Workforce Policy Associate with the North Carolina Department of Commerce, will be our speaker on Tuesday, April 7th from 1:00 to 3:00 P.M. here at the Institute on Aging, 720 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., 2nd floor conference room

-Myra's topic will be: "AN UPDATE ON WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT IN NORTH CAROLINA"

-Contact Peter Stein at: pstein@schsr.unc.edu or (919)966-6818 with any questions about the April program.

-To confirm attendance, please contact Diane Wurzinger at diane_wurzinger@unc.edu or call (919)843-2647.

NATIONAL

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality Newsletter March 3, 2009, Issue #271 *Newsletter Attached*

AHRQ News and Numbers: Americans visited a hospital outpatient department or office-based provider for high cholesterol 300 percent more often in 2006 than they did in 1996. Trauma related disorders and mental disorders prompted the most visits in 2006, just as they did in 1996. [Source: Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, MEPS.]

Today's Headlines:

1. 10-State Project to Study Methods to Reduce Central Line-Associated Bloodstream Infections in Hospital ICUs
2. AHRQ Releases Diabetes Cost Calculator
3. AHRQ Releases Recommendations for a National Emergency Evacuation System
4. Task Force Found Insufficient Evidence Regarding Whole-Body Skin Examinations to Prevent Skin Cancer
5. New article on Insufficient Evidence Recommendations of the Task Force
6. New Evidence Report on HER2 Testing to Manage Patients with Breast Cancer Is Available
7. Special AHRQ-Funded Journal Issue Highlights Impact of Health IT on Child Health
8. AHRQ's Third Annual Conference Set for September 13-16
9. Call for Papers—Payment Reform
10. Call for Nominations for 2009 John M. Eisenberg Patient Safety and Quality Awards Program
11. Highlights from Our Most Recent Monthly Newsletter
12. AHRQ in the Professional Literature

ITEMS OF INTEREST

IOA Funding Weekly Funding Alert "News about funding opportunities for UNC Institute on Aging constituents"

-This funding alert is made possible through UNC's subscriptions to Community of Science and Infoed Sponsored Programs Information Network. <http://www.cos.com> <http://www.spin2000.infoed.org>

-**Title:** Virginia Stone, R.N. Scholar Award **Sponsor:** American Nurses Association American Nurses Foundation Nursing Research Grants Program **URL:** <http://fundingopps.cos.com/alerts/40987> **Amount:** \$10,000

-**Title:** ASH-Association of Specialty Professors Geriatric Hematology Research Award **Sponsor:** American Society of Hematology Scholar Awards **URL:** <http://fundingopps.cos.com/alerts/99080> **Amount:** \$150,000

ER for Geriatric Patients

-NPR's Morning Edition had a very interesting story about a first-of-its kind emergency center designed specifically for geriatric patients. The hospital is Holy Cross Hospital in Silver Spring, MD. The physician mentioned was Jerry Thomas, MD. I think they said he was faculty at U of MD.

-You can listen to it at www.npr.org and go to 2/19/2009 Morning Edition.

Hospice & Palliative CareCenter e-newsletter <http://seriousillness.org/piedmont/newsletter/index.php>

We're excited to launch our new, monthly e-newsletter. In this March/April issue, our articles include:

- Uncle Sam may have a tax break for you.* The IRS has established several deductions that may help defray some out-of-pocket expenses of caring for an older relative.
- Learning to accept help.* Noble but inaccurate beliefs can lead you to burnout. Discover techniques to overcome negative self-talk and make it easier to reach out for caregiving help.
- When ice cream is better than salad.* Especially in the case of frail elders, comfort foods can be more beneficial than adhering to a strict "healthy" diet.

Have an idea for the newsletter? Share your thoughts and feedback!