

# ETMC Tyler receives national accreditation

ETMC Tyler has received full accreditation from the national Chest Pain Society as a Chest Pain Center with PCI (percutaneous coronary intervention). PCI refers to a variety of procedures used to treat patients with diseased arteries of the heart caused by a build-up of fats, cholesterol and other substances from the blood that can reduce blood flow and lead to chest pain or a heart attack.

Heart attacks are the leading cause of death in the United States, with 600,000 dying annually of heart disease.

More than five million Americans visit the hospitals each year with chest pain.

The goal of the Society of Chest Pain Centers is to significantly reduce the mortality rate of these patients by teaching the public to recognize and react to the early symptoms of a possible heart attack, reduce the time that it takes to receive treatment, and increase the accuracy and effectiveness of treatment, according to Jerrie Hacker, ETMC chest pain center coordinator. "The goal is also to decrease morbidity and to improve the patient's future

quality of life."

With the rise of Chest Pain Centers came the need to establish standards designed to improve the consistency and quality of care provided to patients.

Key areas in which a Chest Pain Center must demonstrate expertise include:

- Integrating the emergency department with EMS
- Assessing, diagnosing and treating patients quickly
- Effectively treating patients with low risk for acute coronary syndrome and no assignable cause for their symptoms
- Continually seeking to improve processes and procedures
- Ensuring Chest Pain Center personnel competency and training
- Maintaining organizational structure and commitment
- Having a functional design that promotes optimal patient care
- Supporting community outreach programs that educate the public to promptly seek medical care if they display symptoms of a possible heart attack

ETMC Tyler received a three-year accreditation.

## Bash

Continued from Page 1

attended, with ballots totaling about 42.

This is out of a membership of about 115.

Newly elected president Mike Alexander said he was pleased with both the turnout and the direction the chamber is headed.

Alexander will officially take the reins at the banquet.

'Danny Ray did a great job, and I hope to continue to be able to do what he's done for the chamber,' Alexander said. 'A chamber of commerce - especially in a growing city like Bullard - is an essential part of the community.'

Alexander said with more and more people moving into the area, the chamber's mission is two-fold: to be a source of information for visitors and prospective residents and to promote a good relationship for members.

And while individual members are welcome, most chambers focus on fostering a strong business climate.

'The chamber is the organization that pulls both businesses and people together through shared information, networking and other programs,' Alexander said.

But in a smaller town, it can be more difficult.

'We have no paid staff, so without the dedication of our volunteers, we couldn't function,' he said.

The election brought

more than one change to the roster of those serving.

While Capps will continue to serve as vice president, Sue Hornbuckle is taking over as secretary and Tom McDonald will serve as treasurer.

Also on the ballot was the election of board members.

Four seats were up - one being that of Mayor A.W. Hines - who resigned his seat on the board - with two years left on his term.

'While resigning isn't something I wanted to do, I felt it best,' Hines told the group. 'Being mayor is more labor intensive than I first thought, and I don't want the chamber to suffer for that.'

Hines said he believed it better to resign the post than to only be able to serve in a limited capacity.

'The chamber deserves someone who can devote more time to the job than I can, and that's my reasoning behind the decision,' he said.

Newly elected board members are: John Alexander, Jay Abercrombie, Teresa Adams-Wilks and Chad Davis.

'This is a good group of people,' Alexander said. 'And a good mix of professionals who will - working with the current board members - help guide the chamber and its members in the coming year.'

Tickets are on sale at the chamber office for \$25. For more information, call the Bullard Chamber of Commerce at 903-894-4238.

# Farm bureau to celebrate 'Food Check-Out' week

RUSK - The week before Valentine's Day, Feb.3-9, join the Cherokee County Farm Bureau in the celebration of America's true love - food.

Based on Agriculture Department statistics, Farm Bureau's Food Check-Out Week marks the date when average Americans will have earned enough income to pay for their entire year's food supply.

In recognition of this, Cherokee county Farm Bureau is commemorating the fact that America's food supply is the safest and most affordable in the world.

'Compared to other expenses facing American families, food is a bargain,' said Cherokee County Farm Bureau president Joe Parsley. 'While Americans must work only until February to pay for their yearly food supply, they

must work much longer to pay for health and medical care, housing and federal taxes.'

'We remain concerned that some Americans cannot afford to buy the food that they need, but we are proud of the role Texas farmers play in producing the most affordable food in the world,' Parsley said.

There are 2.13 million farms in the nation and about 99 percent of farms are operated by individuals, family partnerships or family corporations. 'As a farmer, I am producing affordable food for my family and yours,' said Mr. Parsley. 'I am proud of what we do and hope Americans will join us in celebration of our agricultural success.'

To mark this success, Cherokee County Farm Bureau will be holding an event, and more information will be released.

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### Voting Information

The primary is set for March 4. Early voting gets under way Feb. 19.

**Early voting locations are:**  
 Smith County Courthouse Annex, 200 E. Ferguson, Suite 500, Tyler  
 United Methodist Church, 405 W. Main St., Whitehouse  
 Heritage Building, 1900 W. Bellwood, Tyler  
 Lindale Masonic Lodge, 200 Margaret, Lindale



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