

CHDI announces launch of new program

Community Health Development Inc. has announced the launch of a new Convenient Care program at its flagship health center, Our Health-Nuestro Centro de Salud in Uvalde.

The program is designed to provide convenient access to high-quality, urgent and non-emergency medical services at affordable prices on a walk-in basis for prompt examination and treatment.

The Convenient Care program will be led by new Community Health Development Inc. Physician's Assistant Amrish M. Patel.

"Patients sometimes need immediate attention in non-emergency situations," said Community Health Development Inc. Chief Executive Officer Rachel A. Gonzales-Hanson. "This often results in a trip to the ER, where emergency cases take precedence and less urgent cases must often wait for treatment. People need more access points to

receive this form of care for acute conditions, especially in this significant cold and flu season.

"This walk-in treatment program will effectively compliment what physicians are already providing within our health system," she said. "At the same time, we are pleased to introduce to the community our newest medical team member, Amrish M. Patel.

Gonzales-Hanson said the certified physician's assistant is Community Health Development Inc.'s key provider for the Conve-

nient Care program.

Convenient Care offers basic treatment services for low to mildly acute illnesses and minor injuries, as well as health screenings, medical tests and vaccinations, regardless of the patient's ability to pay.

Our Health accepts most major insurance plans. The health center is an in-network provider for Blue Cross/Blue Shield and out-of-network provider for United (used by the area's largest employer, Uvalde Consolidated Independent School District), Humana, Aetna, Group and Pension,

TML and more.

Our Health is now offering Convenient Care at Our Health, 200 S. Evans St., from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday.

"We are pleased to provide the area with affordable, top quality and convenient health care through this unique model," said Randy Scheide, CHDI board chairman. "The launch of Convenient Care further honors our commitment to be a leading provider of health and wellness services in our community."

Patel comes to CHDI following extensive recent experience in emergency medicine at Kings County Hospital in Brooklyn, N.Y. He previously served with SUNY Downstate Medical Center in Brooklyn in the areas of internal medicine, pediatrics, primary care, surgery and infectious diseases.

"Through the CHDI Convenient Care we are able to extend our experience in the delivery of quality health services to consumers, reach a broader patient audience, serve a wider range of ailments and take wellness education to another level," said Patel.



Amrish B. Patel

Patel received his Bachelor's degree in pharmacy from North Maharashtra University, Maharashtra, India, and his Bachelor of Science degree from SUNY Downstate Medical School in Brooklyn.

He moved to Uvalde to

begin his duties with CHDI in August. His fiancée, Anisha Hindocha, will join him in Uvalde early next year following their wedding abroad.

For more information about Convenient Care, call (830) 278-7105.



YOUNG DONORS – Thirteen-year-old Katelyn King and 12-year-old Sydney Mueller of Uvalde deliver treats and toys for the animals at Uvalde Animal Shelter. The newest Uvalde Animal Shelter Junior Member is 3-year-old Sean M. Radican. The non-profit shelter located at 2893 Highway 83 North is funded by donations. For more information call 278-1407.

NOTICE OF SCHEDULED ENTRY INTO FIELDS

Pursuant to Tex. Agric. Code, Sec. 74.117, cotton producers in the South Texas/Winter Garden Boll Weevil Eradication Zone, which consists of Kinney, Uvalde, Zavala, Dimmit, Medina, Frio, La Salle, Bexar, Atascosa, McMullen, Duval, Wilson, Karnes, Live Oak, Jim Wells, Kleberg, Nueces, San Patricio, Bee, Refugio, Aransas, Goliad, Calhoun, Victoria, De Witt, and Lavaca counties are hereby notified that Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation personnel will be conducting eradication activities in and around their fields, beginning January 1, 2010. All cotton fields will be mapped, and treatment will begin during the cotton-growing season. For notification prior to any chemical treatment, call 1-800-687-1212 with the exact location of your field and appropriate telephone numbers. Field entry and treatment is expected to last until all cotton is harvested in the zone. For more information regarding this program, please call the Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation at 1-800-687-1212.

DPS troopers try to make Christmas safer

The Christmas and New Year's holidays will see all available Department of Public Safety troopers patrolling Texas roadways in an attempt to make travel safer for all Texans. Troopers will be focusing on locating drivers who may be intoxicated, but also will be looking for speeders and seatbelt violators.

All available troopers will be on patrol from Dec. 24 through Dec. 27, and again Dec. 31 through Jan. 3.

During the Christmas holiday last year, DPS troopers arrested 651 drivers for driving while intoxicated and issued 15,400 speeding tickets and 2,580 safety restraint violations.

During the New Year's holiday last year, DPS troopers arrested 304 drivers for DWI and issued 5,173 speeding tickets and 912 safety restraint violations.

"We want to do all we can to minimize the number of traffic crashes and fatalities during this holiday season. Texas drivers can do their part by designating a sober driver if they've consumed any alcohol. The holidays are no time to spend in jail, but we will arrest any driver who is impaired," said David Baker, assistant director for the Texas Highway Patrol.

Department of Public Safety officials shared their advice for holiday

travel:

- Drive with courtesy; it's contagious. Remember, it's the holidays.

- Slow down – especially in bad weather, construction areas and heavy traffic.

- Don't drink and drive; get a designated driver.

- Buckle up everyone in the vehicle.

- Keep cell phone chatter to a minimum and avoid texting.

- Avoid drowsy driving.

- Make sure your vehicle is properly maintained.

Who you gonna call? City experts

Who do you call when you see any kind of issue or concern with city streets, water, gas, or sewer service, or other public works?

Public works director Joe Jarosek said calls may be made to Rosa Martinez, dispatcher for the city ser-

vice center, at 278-8721. For an issue after hours, call 278-9147.

He said Martinez would put the information into the system and send someone to take care of any problem as soon as manpower was available.

bring home more holiday

BEALLS



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Hope for wounds that won't heal....

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The Hyperbaric & Wound Care Center of Uvalde Memorial Hospital

comprehensive, advanced treatment options to patients with non-healing wounds.

Commonly treated conditions:

- * Pressure ulcers
- * Diabetic foot ulcers
- * Surgical wounds
- * Wounds caused by infections
- * Traumatic wounds
- * Wounds due to circulatory problems
- * Wounds due to autoimmune disorders



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Santa Claus

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