

FAMILY PHYSICIAN

An Official Publication of the Tennessee Academy of Family Physicians

CALL FOR NOMINEES:

**TAFP Board Seats for
Special Constituencies – See Page 3**

*Minorities *Women

*New Physicians (in practice less than seven years)

**Family Physician of the Year Award –
See Page 2**

**John S. Derryberry M.D.
Distinguished Service Award –
See Page 2**

**Call for Student & Resident
Research Papers – See Page 3**

PRSR STD
U.S. POSTAGE

PAID

Lebanon
Junction,
KY 40150
Permit No. 222



The Tennessee Academy of Family Physicians announces the candidacy of Jim King, M.D. for president-elect of the AAFP in 2006

EXCOF-SF ^(C-III)
Hydrocodone Bitartrate 5mg Phenylephrine HCl 8mg Carbinoxamine Maleate 4mg
Sugar Free

Indications and Usage

Excof-SF Liquid is indicated for the temporary relief of symptoms such as cough, congestion, rhinorrhea associated with sinusitis, allergic rhinitis, and the common cold.

Excof-SF Liquid Contains:

- Hydrocodone Bitartrate 5mg
- Phenylephrine HCl 8mg
- Carbinoxamine Maleate 4mg

Excof-SF Liquid is an alcohol-free, sugar-free, and dye-free syrup having a strawberry aroma and flavor.

Excof-SF is a class III medication.

EX the symptoms...

with
sugar free
EXCOF-SF

- Congestion
- Allergic Rhinitis
- Rhinorrhea
- Cough
- Common Cold
- Sinusitis



STEWART-JACKSON PHARMACAL, INC. Memphis, TN 38118 • ph. 800.367.1395 • fx. 901.362.9102 • www.sjpharmaceutical.com

CARDIOTEK-RX

TABLETS (Folic Acid 2mg, L-Arginine HCl 500mg, Vitamin B-12 500mcg, Vitamin B-6 50mg)

Give Your Patients A Head Start With CARDIOTEK-RX

Promoting Healthy Arteries

INDICATIONS AND USAGE: CARDIOTEK-RX is indicated for nutritional support and dietary supplementation of Folic Acid, L-Arginine HCl, Cyanocobalamin (Vitamin B12) and Pyridoxine (Vitamin B6) in patients with cardiovascular disease, cerebrovascular disease, peripheral vascular disease, arteriosclerotic vascular disease, neurological disorders, renal disease and/or patients that have a need for an increase in L-Arginine derived nitric oxide (NO).



Remember The "RX" In CARDIOTEK-RX!

At Risk Patients

Over 55



Cardio Disease



Diabetes



Smoker



Post Menopausal



Obesity



Hypertension



Family History



STEWART-JACKSON PHARMACAL, INC. Memphis, TN 38118 • ph. 800.367.1395 • fx. 901.362.9102 • www.sjpharmaceutical.com



CO-EDITORS:

Michael Hartsell, M.D.
Greeneville

Kim Howerton, M.D.
Jackson

OFFICERS:

PRESIDENT:

Raymond Walker, M.D.

PRESIDENT-ELECT:

Charles Ball, M.D.

VICE PRESIDENT:

J. Chris Graves, M.D.

SECRETARY-TREASURER:

Gregg Mitchell, M.D.

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT:

Reid Blackwelder, M.D.

SPEAKER OF THE CONGRESS:

Lee Carter, M.D.

VICE SPEAKER OF THE CONGRESS:

T. Allen Polk, M.D.

DELEGATES TO THE AAFP:

Reid Blackwelder, M.D.

Donald H. Polk, D.O.

ALTERNATE DELEGATES

TO THE AAFP:

Michael Hartsell, M.D.

Timothy Linder, M.D.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR/ MANAGING EDITOR:

Cathy J. Dyer

Volume 17, Number 2

© Copyright 2006

TENNESSEE FAMILY PHYSICIAN is published by Journal Communications, Inc., 361 Mallory Station Road, Suite 102, Franklin, TN 37067, for the Tennessee Academy of Family Physicians and its members. For information or advertising rates call (615) 771-0080 in Nashville or (800) 333-8842.

PLEASE SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO:

Tennessee Academy of Family Physicians
4721 Trousdale Drive, Suite 202
Nashville, Tennessee 37220

President's Corner

As we begin a new year, medicine is being challenged in many ways. Physicians must find new ways of representing the issues to the public. To some extent, we are not seen as patient advocates, but are viewed as greedy, selfish people. Yes, liability costs hurt us, but the real issue is that it hurts our patients and the health care system by increasing costs to all parts of the system, including physicians. If we are to help influence a change in liability, we must show the cost to everyone, not just physicians. The public needs to see who really benefits from the current system.

Tennessee faces an ongoing struggle with TennCare reform. We need to be part of a solution for this. We must act as advocates of our patients, without assuming all of the financial risk for patient care. Why is it ok for an insurance company to make a profit, but it is greedy for a physician to want to cover his or her expenses?

We have seen a push for improved quality of care. We as physicians need to be involved in helping to define this issue in ways that are meaningful. We must advocate for patients to become involved in their care, and for them to be accountable for their actions. As a team, we can improve quality, but the patient must assume some responsibility for this as well.

We have seen many different groups trying to redefine who provides healthcare or even attempting to change what is meant by doctor. We are physicians who care about our patients, we are not simply "providers". We have yet to see what the true costs of some of these shifts will be. We need to continue to advocate for quality care. This is the real issue.

I ask everyone to work together to provide a strong voice. We cannot sit on the sidelines and watch others bring about change. We have an obligation to be involved and work toward realistic solutions. We have to think about how our actions and statements are perceived before proceeding. However, we cannot let this keep us from acting. We need to become more proactive rather than reactive. Let us try to lead some of the moves for change rather than reacting to changes by or from others.

As we continue through this legislative session, consider being Doctor of the Day. Talk to your representatives in local, state and federal office. Let them know that you care about the issues, not just one issue. Make yourself available if they have questions or need information. Be an advocate for improving health care, but let them know that we ARE providing quality care NOW.

Help your leadership represent you and your needs. Every one of us must continue to be involved so that no one is left out. What are you doing to help the Tennessee Academy of Family Physicians continue to be a strong voice in Nashville?



**Raymond Walker, M.D., MBA, Memphis
President**

Call For Nominees

2006 'John S. Derryberry M.D. Distinguished Service Award'

Nominations are being sought for the TAFP's 'John S. Derryberry M.D. Distinguished Service Award' by June 1, 2006. Nominations received should be for persons who deserve recognition of their outstanding service or contribution to the advancement of Family Medicine, to the Tennessee Academy of Family Physicians, or to the public welfare on Family Medicine's behalf, whether of a civic, scientific, or special service nature. This Award was established to recognize outstanding and distinguished service by a physician or by a non-physician demonstrating exemplary leadership, character, and/or dedication to community involvement. The Award is named in honor of the late John S. Derryberry, M.D., Shelbyville, who served the TAFP and AAFP with honor and distinction from 1964 until his passing in 1998, having served as AAFP President in 1979.

Nominees are NOT required to be members of the Tennessee AFP, but nominations must be made by a TAFP member in good standing.

The following supporting data is required for each nominee:

- (1) A detailed statement of the scientific, cultural, or special service justification for the nomination.
- (2) Biographical information on the nominee including a recent black and white photograph.
- (3) Education and training of nominee.
- (4) Professional history, contributions to Family Medicine, special appointments.
- (5) Substantial evidence of merit including printed material, publications, articles, or other citations or relevant supporting documents.

The recipient will be selected by the TAFP Board of Directors at their summer meeting with the actual award to be presented during the TAFP's 58th Annual Scientific Assembly in Gatlinburg the week of October 24-27, 2006. To obtain a nomination packet, please contact the TAFP office at 1-800-897-5949 or in Nashville 615-833-5522, or by email at tnafp@bellsouth.net. Complete nomination packets must be received by the TAFP prior to June 1.

2006 'Family Physician of the Year Award'

The Tennessee Academy of Family Physicians is soliciting nominations for the TAFP 'Family Physician of the Year Award' with a deadline of June 1, 2006. The 2006 Family Physician of the Year will be selected by members of the TAFP Congress of Delegates voting through their Director on the TAFP Board of Directors at the Summer TAFP Board of Directors' Meeting.

The TAFP's 'Family Physician of the Year Award' honors a member of the TAFP who has made an outstanding contribution to Family Medicine, to the advancement of health and/or medical training and medical education is eligible for nomination for this Award. All nominations must be submitted on an official nomination form available from the TAFP office. In addition to the completed nomination form, all nominations must be submitted with an updated curriculum-vitae,

a current photograph of the nominee and you may include up to five (5) pages of additional supporting documentation such as personal letters or testimonials. **All nominees MUST be a current member in good standing of the Tennessee Academy of Family Physicians.**

This is an opportune time to honor one of your colleagues! Consider submitting a nominee this year, or see that your TAFP chapter/district submits one. To receive a nomination packet, please contact the TAFP office at 1-800-897-5949, or in Nashville 615-833-5522. Remember, the deadline for nominations for the 2006 TAFP 'Family Physician of the Year' is JUNE 1. Only nominations with complete nomination packets will be accepted, and no nomination materials will be accepted after June 1.

Call For Nominees

Board Seats For Special Constituencies

**Minorities *Women *New Physicians (in practice less than 7-years)*

Deadline of May 3

The Tennessee Academy of Family Physicians announces the official call for nominations for the TAFP Board Director and Alternate Director representing each of the following special constituency groups for a two-year term: *Minorities; *Women; and, *New Physicians (in practice less than 7-years) for consideration by the 2006 TAFP Nominating Committee. Deadline for receipt of nominations is May 3, 2006.

All nominees must be ACTIVE members in good standing (dues paid to date and CME reported to date) of the Tennessee Academy of Family Physicians. Any TAFP Active member can nominate a qualified nominee for each of these positions. Self-nominations are also welcome. **Each nominee is required to submit a 1 to 3 page biographical sketch and two (2) letters of recommendations from TAFP Active members in good standing.**

Election of the Director and Alternate Director from the nominees selected by the TAFP Nominating Committee for the Minorities, Women and New Physicians will take place during the TAFP Congress of Delegates on Tuesday, October 24, 2006., during the TAFP's Annual Scientific Assembly in Gatlinburg. The two-year term of office will begin October 2006 and end October 2008.

The deadline for receipt of nominees and their all of their required support nomination materials by the Tennessee AFP office in Nashville is May 3, 2006. Complete nomination packets must be received by May 3, 2006 to be considered by the Nominating Committee.

**Charles Ball, M.D., President-elect
Chair, TAFP 2006 Nominating Committee**

Call For Research Papers

Deadline of July 15, 2006

The Research Committee of the Tennessee Academy of Family Physicians (TAFP) is pleased to announce the 'Call for Resident and Student Research Papers' for presentation at the 58th Annual Scientific Assembly to be held at the Gatlinburg Convention Center the week of October 24-27, 2006. The TAFP Research Committee will select three abstracts from those received for presentation at the TAFP's 2006 Annual Scientific Assembly. Those selected will have the opportunity to present their research paper to approximately 300 physicians from the mid-south who attend the TAFP's Annual Scientific Assembly. Those selected will receive up to two (2) night's

lodging and paid car mileage.

Only TAFP Resident and Student members in good standing are eligible to participate in the TAFP Research Paper Competition. If you are involved in research or other scholarly activities, the TAFP Research Committee would very much like to have you participate in this Research Paper Competition. If you have questions or wish to receive the required 'Competition Application' packet, please contact Cathy Dyer at the TAFP headquarters office at 1-800-897-5949 (Nashville: 833-5522).

The firm deadline for receipt of Research Abstracts is July 15.

Recap Of October 27, 2005 TAFP Board Of Directors' Meeting

- For information reviewed notification from Governor Phil Bredesen that Roger Zoorob, M.D., Nashville, was appointed as the TAFP's new member to the TennCare Pharmacy Advisory Committee upon the resignation of Jim King, M.D., Selmer.

- Received a request from the Tennessee Medical Association that the TAFP assist the TMA in filling their Thursday Doctor of the Day slots in 2006. The TAFP Board voted to provide the Doctor of the Day every third-Thursday in response to the TMA request in addition to the Tuesday Doctor of the Day.

- Appointed Ray Walker, M.D. as TAFP Representative, and Tim Linder, M.D. as Alternate, to the Commissioner of Health's newly created Council on Injury Prevention and Control.

- Received report from John Midtling, M.D., Chair, UT Memphis Department of Family Medicine that he wished for the Academy to revisit the idea of a

Practice Based Research Network in Tennessee, which was referred to the TAFP Executive Committee.

- Approved the introduction of a Bylaws Amendment in 2006 to the TAFP Congress of Delegates to inactivate the TAFP Committee on Professional Liability.

- From a request in the Report of the TAFP Delegation to the AAFP to the 2005 TAFP Congress, referred the matter of encouraging and supporting TAFP student and resident members to apply for AAFP commissions each year to the TAFP Resident and Student Board Members, and the TAFP Education Committee.

- From a request in the Report of the TAFP Delegation to the AAFP to the 2005 TAFP Congress, approved the inclusion of a 'Volunteer Your Opinion' in the Winter 2006 issue of the TAFP journal on ABFM Maintenance of Certification. Also referred to the Co-Editors of the TAFP journal and the Assembly Program Committee the matter of educating

members on the improvements the ABFM has made in the process of MOC and the consequences of members dropping their Board Certification.

- Referred 'Resolution 2-2005: Physician Retainer System' from the 2005 TAFP Congress of Delegates to the TAFP Executive Committee for investigation and study.

- Referred Resolution '3-2005: Support of the TMA's Medical Liability Reform Campaign' to the TAFP Executive Committee pending further information from the TMA.

- Referred Resolution '4-2005: Increasing Family Medicine Post-graduate Academic Opportunity' to the TAFP Education Committee for further evaluation and information including checking into current AAFP Policy.

(For additional information on any of these items, please contact Cathy at the TAFP office in Nashville.)

Practice Opportunities

If you are looking for a partner or a practice location, send information by mail to: TAFP, 4721 Trousdale Drive, Suite 202, Nashville, TN 37220; or by fax to: 615-833-2677; or by email: tnafp@bellsouth.net. Information for practice opportunities will be accepted only from TAFP members and will be placed in the Tennessee Family Physician at no charge. You are required to include your name, address and/or telephone number and/or fax number and/or email address, since contact concerning opportunities will be made directly between interested parties and not through the TAFP. Information will be placed in four (4) editions unless the TAFP is notified otherwise. Deadline for the next issue (Summer 2006) is April 28, 2006.

- **Practice opportunity in Madisonville, Tennessee** with the Tennessee State Department of Health. Great opportunity for qualified physician with regular hours. Contact: Tara Sturdivant, M.D.; Primary Care Services, 1522 Cherokee Trail, Knoxville, TN 37920.

- **Board Certified Family Physician** available for short or long term outpatient/inpatient assignments. Willing to see all age groups and have flexible schedule. Call: 865-397-9957.

- **Nashville** – 25 year old established and well furnished **practice for sale**. Located in suburban area near the airport and several hospitals. For more information please page (615) 736-0953.

Volunteer Your Opinion

'ABFM Maintenance Of Certification'

To Whom It May Concern:

I would like to offer my opinion regarding the American Board of Family Medicine's new Maintenance Of Certification requirements.

Both my wife and I are Board Certified by the ABFM and have been for eighteen years. Our current certification extends for seven more years as we just recertified in July 2005. Neither my wife nor I will participate in the MOC requirements. We both strongly feel that enough is enough with regard to requirements for Certification/Recertification. As far as we are concerned the new MOC requirements undeniably implies the current ABFM Recertification exam is flawed. We feel MOC is not the answer and refuse to participate. In seven years we will lose our Board Certification and anticipate no problems. If problems do arise then we accept the consequences of our actions. Neither of us wants the ABFM to become involved in our lives any more than it currently is. Limited interaction with the ABFM every seven years is the most we desire. For eighteen years we have met every requirement asked and the limit has been reached. MOC is one of the attempts by the ABFM to try to find a reason for the existence of Family Practice. In an age of ever diminishing reimbursements and personal reward for the practice of medicine, increasing demands for certification is onerous and is not an answer to any question.

Respectfully,

Lia Boyanton, MD and Walter Boyanton, MD

In Honor Of Our TAFP Members Who Serve

MAJ Omar L. Hamada, M.D., FAAFP

from Brentwood, Tennessee. (JFACOG, AFACS)US Army 1/20th Special Forces Group, (Airborne) Battalion Flight Surgeon and Diving Medical Officer. 2002-2003: Afghanistan, Pakistan, Uzbekistan, Oman, SE Turkey. Awards in Theater: Bronze Star Medal, Combat Medical Badge, Special Forces Combat Patch, National Defense Service Medal with Bronze Service Star, Afghanistan Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Russian/Uzbek Parachutist Badge, Armed Forces Reserve Medal with Bronze Hourglass and with "M" Device, National Emergency Service Medal of the State of Alabama with 9-11 Clasp.

LTC Gilbert Ghearing, M.D.

from Jamestown, Tennessee (Fentress Family Practice). Serving presently in Iraq at Camp Bucca with the U.S. Army Reserves.

Your Assistance Is Needed –

The Tennessee AFP would like to recognize in the 'Tennessee Family Physician', our Tennessee AFP members who are serving or who have served in Iraq, Afghanistan or other U.S. military hot spots during the last few years. If you have served, or you know of others who have served, please forward the names and information on the service of these individuals to include the branch of their military service to the TAFP office PRIOR TO April 28, for inclusion in the Summer issue.

Leaders on The Move – Information for Members

- ***Congratulations to Tim Jones, M.D., Nashville,*** Tennessee Deputy State Epidemiologist and TAFP member, who received the Tennessee Public Health Association's "2005 Public Health Worker of the Year Award". The award recognizes an individual in the field of public health who during the past three years has provided outstanding service.

- ***Congratulations to Lang Smith, M.D., Columbia,*** TAFP Board Member, who serves as the Physicians' Section representative to the Tennessee Public Health Association's Board of Directors.

- ***Congratulations to Don Polk, D.O., Waynesboro,*** TAFP Past President, on his recent appointment by Governor Bredesen for a third term on the Tennessee Board of Osteopathic Examiners.

- ***J. Chris Graves, M.D., Chattanooga, TAFP Vice President,*** represented the TAFP at the launch of the Medicare RX Access Network of Tennessee and was a featured speaker.

- ***The AAFP Degree of Fellow*** recognizes family

physicians who have distinguished themselves through service to family medicine and ongoing professional development. ***The following TAFP members were confirmed as AAFP Fellows in 2005: Daniel Miller, M.D., Clarksville, and Allen Pelletier, M.D., Memphis.*** Congratulations to you!

- ***The TAFP is again providing the Doctor of the Day each Tuesday in 2006 to the Tennessee General Assembly.*** Additionally, the TAFP is providing the Doctor of the Day on every third-Thursday. If you are interested in serving please contact Cathy at the TAFP office in Nashville.

- ***The AAFP has formed partnerships with several businesses*** to offer members special pricing, guaranteed quality and great customer service. Members can create a website for their practice, manage their school debt or order magazines for their waiting room. Visit the AAFP website for additional information on each program: www.aafp.org/memberdiscounts.xml. Or, call Kelly Wiens at the AAFP office at 1-800-274-2237, ext. 6814.

Deadlines For The TAFP Quarterly Journal:

Summer 2006 – Deadline of April 28
(publication date of June)

Fall 2006 – Deadline of July 22
(publication date of September)

Winter 2006 – Deadline of October 19
(publication date of December)

Your submissions are welcome to be provided for review by the journal co-editors for possible publication. Submissions should be provided to the TAFP single spaced on a disk or as an email attachment in MSWord format if at all possible. If you have articles, information, letters to the editors or submissions for the TAFP quarterly journal, please forward to:

Cathy Dyer, TAFP

By Mail: 4721 Trousdale Drive, Suite 202,
Nashville, TN 37220.

or, By Email: tnafp@bellsouth.net.

Call For Constitution & Bylaws Amendments

Pursuant to Article X, Section 2, of the TAFP Constitution & Bylaws, "An amendment to the Constitution & Bylaws may be proposed by any regularly appointed committee of this Academy or by any five (5) or more members. The proposed amendment(s) must be submitted to the Executive Director of the Academy no less than 100 days prior to the meeting in which the proposed amendment(s) is to be considered ... Notice of such proposed amendments to be made to member of the Academy by the Executive Director at least 30 days before the meeting at which such proposed amendments are to be acted upon.

Publication of proposed amendments in the official publication of the Academy shall be sufficient to constitute notice thereof to the members".

Proposed amendments to the TAFP Constitution & Bylaws must be received by the TAFP office by July 15, 2006, and will be published in the Fall issue of 'Tennessee Family Physician'.

"POTPOURRI"

I don't have an EMR yet but I've heard it said many times (and as lately at our TAFP 2005 Summer Seminar) that it helps coding.

Representatives are quick to demonstrate with point and click ease how you jump from the 99213 to the 99214 level by getting the complete systems review, the risk level, more precise past history, and the sufficient number of diagnoses. I am amazed at the potential to capture the actual level of service that I give if only the documentation didn't slow me down. Apparently this has not escaped the attention of the Ohio Blue's. "On the one hand, WellPoint Inc.'s Anthem Blue Cross Blue Shield of Ohio division says it's encouraging physicians to adopt electronic medical records by paying doctors a bonus for using EMRs in the plan's pay-for-performance program. On the other hand, Anthem is cutting reimbursement to some physicians who apparently were too good at using the systems to assist them in coding and billing". (<http://www.ama-assn.org/amednews/2005/12/26/bil21226.htm>) They have rolled out the "Blended" codes which basically gives you a little more for the 99213 and much less for the 99214. This has AAFP Board Chair Mary Franks attention in recent remarks in the AAFP Reporter. I'm still waiting for the right EMR system to come along ... it reminds me of marriage.

Diabetes is in the New York Times. In a multipart series, the Times is sounding the pandemic alarm of hundreds and thousands of New Yorkers who are dealing with this condition. "Diabetes and Its Awful Toll Quietly Emerge as Crisis" (<http://www.nytimes.com/2006/01/09/nyregion/nyregionspecial5/09diabetes.html?pagewanted=all>)

The segments focus on the scope of the disease, the impact and implication of illness, the role of sedentary living and dietary imbalance, and the nature of urban life and physical activity. The third part (<http://www.nytimes.com/2006/01/09/nyregion/nyregionspecial5/09diabetes.html?pagewanted=all>) rediscovers what the Asheville Project (<http://www.ncpharmacists.org/displaycommon.cfm?an=1&subarticlenbr=41>) and John Miall showed in caring for diabetic city employees. It costs money up front to educate, medicate, and motivate

these patients. When properly incentivised, people will take care of their feet, check blood sugars, exercise to control hyperglycemic peaks, keep visits with pharmacists, and comply with advice. No small wonder that the model has been applied to

congestive heart failure, hypertension and depression. Each of these diagnoses have potential for lost time on the job and prolonged recovery for the complications. I recall the words of the neatly dressed Texaco serviceman of the sixties, "You can pay me now or pay me more later." Family physicians can understand the beauty of these systems.

The recent death of Doctor Ben Keebler of Greeneville strikes home for me. He's a native son. He practiced here for fifty years. He graced the breakfast table at Laughlin Hospital and held his own with the other representatives of what the Flexnor Report would call the first wave of generalists. They were the brave souls who dared general practice when the medical trend was specialization. Two waves follow theirs. I'm in the next and while not what I consider old - I sure can see it from here! Then there's the wave behind us: the generation X'ers and the youthful intellects who will live out the Future of Family Medicine in more than a project. I'll never equal fifty years in the saddle. But I gladly honor those GP mentors who returned to rural communities and served with distinction. Theirs was true commitment to community, fraternity, and fidelity to medicine.

"Spend Some Tobacco Money on Prevention" says the Tuesday Dec 20th Editorial of the Knoxville New Sentinel (http://www.knoxnews.com/kns/todays_editorial/article/0,1406,KNS_362_4327363,00.html). Six years have passed since the 1998 Tobacco Settlement. Tennessee has yet to spend a dime of it on prevention of tobacco use. This is "A Broken Promise to Our Children"

Continued on page 8



(<http://www.tobaccofreekids.org/reports/settlements/2006/fullreport.pdf>) to end the addiction cycle and rescue the 10,000 kids under eighteen who will become smokers this year. 60,000 kids have become smokers since that settlement in '98. As a direct result of our Legislators' inaction, 128,300 kids now under eighteen in Tennessee will eventually die prematurely from smoking. Nashville satisfies its appetite for tobacco taxes by burning burley while the House and Senate fiddle idly and the caskets pile up. Not to worry, Tennessee stands with Michigan, Missouri, New Hampshire, South Carolina and the District of Columbia in not spending any funds on prevention either

Now some shorts:

How smart are we? With all this internet connectivity, access to information, and instantaneous communication, do we really know anything? About our community, nation, society?

We conquer infectious disease but hoard the patents that allow generic manufacture of affordable drugs.

We watch two thirds of humanity struggle to feed itself while we die prematurely from diseases of caloric excess.

We race to get internet access 24/7 and do not know the needs of our next door neighbor.

We cluster in cities and marginalize the community of farmers who produce our food.

We demand commodities so cheap that only the desperate and poor will do the work under conditions we choose to ignore.

We shun the world and pollute in the name of petrolism.

It's going to cost us to get out of this mess, "We can pay now or pay more later."

Plant a garden. Grow a tomato that needs no gas to get on your table.

It's Spring!

Mike Hartsell, M.D., Greeneville
Co-editor



The Tennessee
Academy of Family Physicians

Proudly Announces
the Candidacy of

Jim King, M.D.

for President-Elect of the
American Academy
of Family Physicians
in 2006

**Mark Your Calendar For
These Important Tennessee
AFP 2006 Dates:**

**Tennessee Summer
Seminar/Board Meeting**

Fall Creek Falls State Park
July 14-16

**58th Annual
Scientific Assembly**

Gatlinburg Convention Center
October 24-27

Yolandria Holt maintains that her positive attitude is as important to leading a healthy life as are her regular trips to the gym. And that attitude, along with a drive that keeps her busy with step aerobics, spinning classes and weight training, led her to

ask

how she might make a difference within her community. She found the answer in Katie Crumbo at Vanderbilt, who got Yolandria involved in a preventive HIV vaccine study — one of the many programs where Vanderbilt is leading the way in looking for answers through asking. And where healthy volunteers like Yolandria are helping to give hope to others in the community.



Vanderbilt Medical Center

Hearts and Minds

YOUR PASSION IS
TAKING CARE OF PATIENTS.



Ours is taking care of you.

The dangers are torrestial. But you're protected: SVMIC is committed to your wellbeing. We know your practice is much more than a business; it's a way of life. That's why we stay strong, to provide more than extensive medical malpractice coverage, counsel and support. We advocate for you. And we offer some of the most comprehensive risk management and compliance programs and business resources you'll find anywhere under the sun. Because it's more than a business for SVMIC. It's been our passion for more than a quarter of a century. Taking care of you. So you can take care of your patients... and your business.



State Volunteer
Mutual Insurance
Company

For more information, contact Sandy Meador or Susan Decarnus. E-mail: info@svmic.com • Web Site: www.svmic.com • Phone toll free 1-800-342-2239 or (615) 377-1999. SVMIC is exclusively endorsed by the Tennessee Medical Association and its component societies.