ANHA NEWS

Pre-Registration Ends TODAY for 2010 ANHA Mid-Year Convention
TODAY, Friday, April 23 is the last day to pre-register for the 2010 ANHA Mid-Year Convention. After today, you may register on-site when the convention begins on May 3. This educational and networking event will be held May 3-6 at The Perdido Beach Resort in Orange Beach. Several seminars on timely topics will be offered, and the social events will allow you to network with other long-term care professionals. The registration price has not increased from 2009! Please see the attached preliminary brochure and registration forms for more information.

Continuing Education Units
The Mid-Year Convention has been approved for 14 hours of continuing education for nursing home administrators, risk managers and social workers. The ANHA Mid-Year Convention has been approved for 16.8 contact hours for nurses. The Alabama Board of Nursing has approved the Alabama Nursing Home Association as a continuing education provider (Provider #ABNPO151 – expires 3/12/2013). A total of 15.0 equivalent hours of continuing education has been approved for licensed assisted living administrators in the State of Alabama.

Abuse Reminder
According to F226, facilities must develop and operationalize policies and procedures for screening and training employees, protection of residents for the prevention, identification, investigation, and reporting of abuse, neglect, mistreatment, and misappropriation of property. The purpose is to assure that the facility is doing all that is within its control to prevent occurrences. This includes contract employees. Facilities need to ensure that residents are not subjected to abuse by anyone, including, but not limited to, facility staff, other residents, consultants or volunteers, staff of other agencies serving the resident, family members or legal guardians, friends, or other individuals.

Enroll Now in Advancing Excellence
Enrollment is still open for nursing homes that want to participate in Advancing Excellence in America’s Nursing Homes. This FREE initiative helps nursing homes improve the quality of care and life for their residents.
ANHA is a member of the Local Area Network for Excellence (LANE) and encourages all member facilities to join.

To register or re-enroll for the Campaign, visit http://www.nhqualitycampaign.org/.

- If your nursing home was registered for Phase 1, get your password and log in to the Web site. You only need to do two things: choose three goals and set targets for each goal chosen. If you need help with your password or with the re-enrollment process, call your LANE convener, whose contact information can be found on the AE Web site under Local Support under the About the Campaign button.
- If you are registering for the first time, simply follow the directions on the Web site.

Participants can access the wealth of free resources, including web-based education sessions, tip sheets, newsletters and updates on the most current research on how to improve patient care, staff satisfaction and public trust. First-time participants are also recognized on the website.

Alabama facility enrollment is well exceeding the national enrollment rate. Alabama = 59.7% Nation = 40.7% A total of 138 Alabama nursing homes are currently enrolled. Thanks to everyone for this success. Keep up the great work. Enrollment is still open, so let’s continue to strive to be the only state to have 100% enrollment and achieve all goals of the campaign. If Alabama maintains its current performance, it is projected to meet and even exceed most goals of the Campaign. However, our focus must be on encouraging homes to maintain current performance and continuing to encourage enrollment. The top three goals selected by Alabama nursing homes are #1 Pain, #2 Pressure Ulcers and #3 Staff Turnover.

ANHA Sponsors Geriatric Nursing Poster Contest

ANHA sponsored a geriatric practice poster contest at the Auburn Montgomery School of Nursing. Teams of junior year nursing students studied various concepts of caring for geriatric patients and developed a poster to show their findings. ANHA Executive Director Louis Cottrell is pictured with the winning teams and Dr. Arlene Morris (far left). Photo courtesy Carolyn Kinney, AUM.

LAST CHANCE to Submit Your Best Practice

Will you share your Best Practice? You are invited to share your knowledge, positive ideas and creativity to communicate with other professionals as we strive to meet the needs of our long-term care residents. Attached is the 2010 Alabama’s Best Practices “Call for Nominations.” We encourage each of you to look over the nomination form and submit your Best Practice. This year’s Best Practices Program is scheduled for Thursday, August 26, 2010. Nominations are due TODAY, April 23, 2010.
2010 National Nursing Home Week Materials

The American Health Care Association has shipped the National Nursing Home Week (NNHW) planning guide to facilities. The planning guide and other support materials can also be downloaded from the National Nursing Home Week website at www.nnhw.org.

NNHW is May 9-15 with the theme of “Enriching Every Day.” NNHW spotlights nursing home residents and staff and encourages all to celebrate those that make a positive difference in their lives every day. A supportive and caring environment, such as a nursing home, provides enrichment for residents and families to continue growing, learning and teaching through various ways. The week also provides an opportunity to honor all those who contribute to our nation’s nursing homes – residents, family members, employees and volunteers.

AHCA has produced several promotional products for this year’s theme of “Enriching Every Day.” Please see the attached AHCA flyer for more information on the items. If you did not receive the planning guide, please contact Tiffany Crawford at AHCA at tcrawford@ahca.org or (202) 898-6318. Also attached is information on t-shirts from Jones Sportswear.

FACILITY NEWS

Rehab Select at Albertville Opens New Rehab Gym

People from across the Sand Mountain area attended Albertville Health & Rehab’s recent open house for the new Rehab Select gym. The new facility features state of the art physical therapy equipment, an area for occupational therapy and a Wii gaming station. The rehab gym has its own entrance along with a lobby and conference room.

Generations of Vernon Celebrates Easter

Residents and staff of Generations of Vernon celebrated Easter with an Easter Egg hunt and refreshments. One of the staff members even brought live rabbits to the event for the residents and their families to enjoy. Pictured is resident Mrs. Adean Bryant with the Easter Bunny.
Cleburne County Nursing Home Earns Deficiency Free Survey!
Cleburne County Nursing Home recently earned a deficiency free health survey! Eura Harrell is the Administrator and Karen Ann Brocco is the Director of Nursing. The facility is located in Heflin and owned by the Cleburne County Hospital Board. Congratulations to the staff of Cleburne County Nursing Home on this outstanding accomplishment!

Madison Manor Nursing Home Earns Deficiency Free Survey!
Madison Manor Nursing Home recently earned a deficiency free health survey! Felita Smith is the Administrator and Mary Hall is the Director of Nursing. The facility is located in Madison and is owned by Crowne Management. Congratulations to the staff of Madison Manor on this outstanding accomplishment!

NATIONAL NEWS

Individual Nursing Homes Notified of Status as a SFF Candidate
This month, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) is making an important change to the provider preview that nursing homes can receive in their folders on five-star nursing home quality rating system. In response to a suggestion from the Government Accountability Office, CMS is notifying nursing homes in each state (with the exception of Alaska and the District of Columbia) if they are among the 15 worst-scoring nursing homes (i.e, with a rank of 1-15) in the state. These nursing homes are candidates for the Special Focus Facility program. Please note that CMS is notifying the nursing homes individually. CMS is not currently planning to distribute the list publicly.

Below is the language used in the provider preview report that SFF candidates will receive. Nursing Homes that are not SFF candidates will continue to receive the provider preview report that they have previously received.

Nursing Home Compare was scheduled to be updated on Thursday April 22. Providers should have received provider preview reports beginning April 17. The toll-free hotline will be open from April 14 to April 29. The number of the hotline is 800-839-9290.

Language included in Provider Preview Reports in the top 15:

**IMPORTANT MESSAGE:** Your health inspection score currently makes you a candidate for the Special Focus Facility Program. Please note that this does not necessarily mean that your nursing home will be selected for the Special Focus Facility program. For more information about the program, please go to:
http://www.cms.hhs.gov/CertificationandComplianc/12_NHs.asp.

**IMPORTANT HELPLINE NOTE:** Helpline staff are available to answer calls this month. Helpline hours of operation are 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM Eastern Standard Time, Monday through Friday, April 14th through April 29th.
President Obama Nominates Dr. Donald Berwick for Administrator of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services
On April 19th, President Obama nominated Dr. Donald Berwick to be Administrator of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services (CMS). Dr. Berwick currently serves as President and CEO of the Institute for Healthcare Improvement, and is a professor at Harvard Medical School and the Harvard School of Public Health.

Biographical Sketch of Dr. Donald Berwick, Nominee for Administrator of CMS
Dr. Donald Berwick is President and Chief Executive Officer of the Institute for Healthcare Improvement, Clinical Professor of Pediatrics and Health Care Policy at the Harvard Medical School and Professor of Health Policy and Management at the Harvard School of Public Health. He is also a pediatrician, adjunct staff in the Department of Medicine at Boston’s Children’s Hospital and a consultant in pediatrics at Massachusetts General Hospital.

He has served as Chair of the National Advisory Council of the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, and as an elected member of the Institute of Medicine (IOM). Dr. Berwick served on the IOM’s governing Council from 2002 to 2007. In 1997 and 1998, he was appointed by President Clinton to serve on the Advisory Commission on Consumer Protection and Quality in the Healthcare Industry. Dr. Berwick is the recipient of numerous awards and honors for his work, including the 1999 Ernest A. Codman Award, the 2001 Alfred I. DuPont Award for excellence in children’s health care from Nemours, the 2002 American Hospital Association’s Award of Honor, the 2006 John M. Eisenberg Patient Safety and Quality Award for Individual Achievement from the National Quality Forum and the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations, the 2007 William B. Graham Prize for Health Services Research, and the 2007 Heinz Award for Public Policy from the Heinz Family Foundation.

A summa cum laude graduate of Harvard College, Dr. Berwick holds a Master in Public Policy degree from the John F. Kennedy School of Government. He received his medical degree from Harvard Medical School, where he graduated cum laude.

CMS Proposes Policy and Payment Rate Changes for Inpatient Stays in Acute Care and Long-Term Care Hospitals in FY 2011
The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) proposed earlier this week the fiscal year (FY) 2011 policies and payment rates for inpatient services furnished to people with Medicare by both acute care hospitals and long-term care hospitals.

The proposed rule does not address inpatient hospital related provisions of the recently enacted Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, as amended by the Health Care and Education Affordability Reconciliation Act (collectively referred to as the Affordable Care Act). CMS expects to provide further information on the implementation of health care reform provisions in these laws that affect FY 2010 and FY 2011 IPPS payments in the near future.

- In the action announced, CMS is proposing to update acute care hospital rates by 2.4 percent for inflation, a slight increase over the FY 2010 inflation rate, and apply an adjustment of -2.9 percentage points to recoup one-half of the estimated excess
spending in FY 2008 and 2009 aggregate payments, due to changes in hospital coding practices that did not reflect increases in patients’ severity of illness.

Under legislation passed in 2007, CMS is required to recoup the entire amount of FY 2008 and 2009 excess spending from changes in hospital coding practices by FY 2012. CMS estimates that payments to general acute care hospitals under the proposed rule for operating expenses in FY 2011 will decline by 0.1 percent, or $142 million, compared with FY 2010, and taking into account all factors that would affect spending.

• CMS is similarly proposing to update long-term care hospital (LTCH) rates by 2.4 percent for inflation and apply an adjustment of -2.5 percentage points for the estimated increase in spending in FYs 2008 and 2009 due to documentation and coding that did not reflect increases in patients’ severity of illness. Based on these two proposed provisions and other proposed changes, CMS estimates that payments to LTCHs would increase by 0.8 percent or $41 million.

The projected inflation updates for both types of hospitals may be revised in the final rule based on more recent data. The proposed rule would apply to approximately 3,500 acute care hospitals paid under the Inpatient Prospective Payment System (IPPS), and approximately 420 long-term care hospitals paid under the Long-Term Care Hospital Prospective Payment System (LTCH PPS), beginning with discharges occurring on or after October 1, 2010. Proposed payment rates are based on the most recently available data and may be revised in the final rule to reflect more current data.

Under current law, hospitals that successfully report quality measures included in the Reporting Hospital Quality Data for Annual Payment Update (RHQDAPU) program will receive the full update for 2011. Hospitals that do not participate in the quality reporting program will get the update less two percentage points. Based on the required reporting in 2009, 96 percent of participating hospitals are receiving the full update this year.

• The proposed rule is on display at the Federal Register, and can be found under Special Filings at: www.archives.gov/federal-register/public-inspection/index.html.
• CMS will accept comments on this proposed rule until June 18, and will respond to them in a final rule to be issued by August 1, 2010. For more information, please see: www.cms.hhs.gov/AcuteInpatientPPS/01_overview.asp.
• More information about the proposed rule, including the documentation and coding adjustment and the RHQDAPU changes and HACs discussion, can be found in Fact Sheets on our Web page at: www.cms.hhs.gov/apps/media/fact_sheets.asp.

NFPA Codes and Standards Available to AHCA Members
The American Health Care Association (AHCA) is pleased to announce that we have made arrangements with the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) to provide electronic access to the codes and standards referenced in the current Medicare/Medicaid Regulations to regulate fire/life safety in nursing homes. Included is a copy of the 2000 Life Safety Code and those important codes and standards referenced in 2000 Life Safety Code. AHCA’s agreement with NFPA is that the link below connects directly to the NFPA website and would be posted in the members’ only section of AHCA’s website. It is important to note that these documents are not
applicable to assisted living facilities unless the state in which you are located has adopted the 2000 Life Safety Code for assisted living facilities.

http://www.nfpa.org/itemDetail.asp?categoryID=1981&itemID=46797&URL=Codes%20&%20Standards/Code%20development%20process/&cookie_test=1&cookie%5Ftest=1

The service is free to all members and you do not have to be a member of NFPA to obtain access to the link. The codes and standards are in a read-only format and cannot be copied or printed in order to protect NFPA’s Copyrights.

Based on the review of deficiencies cited in nursing homes in the past few years, the documents below were selected. Please note that the Life Safety Code contains the requirements for fire/life safety systems and equipment that must be provided in the building and for the most part, the standards contain the requirements on how to install, test, inspect and maintain the systems and equipment.

- **1998 NFPA 10, Standard for Portable Fire Extinguishers** This standard contains all the requirements for the installation, inspection, testing and maintenance of portable fire extinguishers.
- **1999 NFPA 13, Standard for the Installation of Sprinkler Systems** This standard contains all the requirements for the installation of sprinkler systems.
- **1998 NFPA 25, Inspection, Testing and Maintenance of Water-Based Fire Protection Systems** This standard contains all the requirements for the inspection, testing and maintenance of sprinkler systems and fire pumps.
- **1999 NFPA 72®, National Fire Alarm Code®** NFPA 72 is actual a standard and not a code and contains all the requirements for the installation, inspection, testing and maintenance of fire alarm systems and smoke detectors.
- **1999 NFPA 80, Standard for Fire Doors and Fire Windows** This standard contains all the requirements for the installation, inspection, testing and maintenance of fire doors and fire windows.
- **1998 NFPA 96, Standard for Ventilation Control and Fire Protection of Commercial Cooking Operations** This standard contains all the requirements for the installation, inspection, testing and maintenance of kitchen range hood and duct systems to include the hood extinguishing system.
- **1999 NFPA 99, Standard for Health Care Facilities** This standard contains all the requirements for the installation, inspection, testing and maintenance of emergency power systems, the handling and storage of oxygen and emergency management plans.
- **1999 NFPA 110, Standard for Emergency and Standby Power Systems** This standard contains all the requirements for the installation, inspection, testing and maintenance of generators and emergency electrical systems up to and including the transfer switch.

Because CMS continues to enforce an older edition of the Life Safety Code, many of the standards referenced by the 2000 Life Safety Code are no longer available for sale or posted on the NFPA website. AHCA wanted to ensure that all members have access to these important
documents and made arrangements for a special posting on the NFPA website. Reviewing the requirements in these documents should assist each member in assuring that any Life Safety Code deficiencies that are cited are cited correctly. As well, the codes and standards provide the requirements necessary to correct the deficiencies. We recognize that the subject of fire/life safety can be difficult and we hope that providing access to these documents will assist you in the development of your Plans of Correction.

AHCA is extremely grateful to the NFPA for arranging his special posting on their website for the long term care profession.

**Securing Wheelchairs**

We have been informed that a southeastern state has just been cited a third immediate jeopardy in a short period of time for a facility's failure to follow manufacturer's guidelines on securing wheelchairs in transport vans. Please take this opportunity to review your transport protocols and make sure they are consistent with the manufacturer's guidelines and that your transportation aides and maintenance staff are well-trained on them and are following them.

**Nurse Aide Abuse Registry**

Please note that the following individuals have been placed on the Alabama Nurse Aide Abuse and/or Sanction Registry. These individuals are prohibited from working in any long-term care facility. To check nurse aides, you can use the nurse aide web site at www.adph.org (Click on Contents A-Z - located in the dark blue at the top of the screen - then Click on Nurse Aide Registry - then Click in the white box and type in the Social Security Number of the person you are trying to find. Be sure and include the dashes in the SSN.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Effective Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fallon Parker</td>
<td>4/8/10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Steven L. Epps</td>
<td>4/16/2010</td>
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**EDUCATION NEWS**

“ICD-9 Coding for Long Term Care” Educational Seminar – May 25th

Please mark your calendars for May 25, 2010, as ANHA will present a seminar entitled “ICD-9 Coding for Long Term Care”. This seminar will be held at The Wynfrey Hotel in Birmingham. The seminar will begin at 8:30 am and conclude at 4:00 pm. Registration will begin at 7:30 am. This seminar has been approved for 6 hours of continuing education for nursing home administrators and social workers. This seminar has also been approved for 7.2 contact hours for nurses. *Everyone must bring a current ICD-9 coding book to the seminar! Please see the attached flyer for more details regarding this event.*

**Upcoming ANHA Educational Seminars – Mark Your Calendars Now!**

Please mark your calendars as ANHA presents seminars on the following dates:

June 14th  "Dealing with Distress: Using Empathy and Support" Mobile, AL
June 29th – 30th "MDS 3.0" Birmingham, AL
August 31st "When Injuries Speak: Forensic Investigation and Documentation of Abuse, Neglect and Falls" Birmingham, AL
More information regarding these seminars will be provided in the near future.

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>May 3rd-6th</td>
<td>ANHA Mid-Year Convention</td>
<td>Perdido Beach Resort</td>
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<td>Orange Beach</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 3rd</td>
<td>ANHA Executive Board Meeting</td>
<td>Perdido Beach Resort</td>
<td>8:30 a.m.</td>
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<td>Orange Beach</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 3rd</td>
<td>ANHA Education/Convention Committee Meeting</td>
<td>Perdido Beach Resort</td>
<td>1:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>Orange Beach</td>
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<td>May 7th</td>
<td>ANHA Region VII ACT/SS Auxiliary Meeting</td>
<td>Oysterella’s Restaurant</td>
<td>11:00 a.m.</td>
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<td>Spanish Fort</td>
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<td>Speaker: Jarrett Crum, Mobile Infirmary, 1 hour CEU</td>
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<td></td>
<td>RSVP: Janet Daughdrill (251) 471-5431</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 25th</td>
<td>ANHA Educational Seminar</td>
<td>Wynfrey Hotel</td>
<td>8:30 a.m.</td>
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<td>“ICD-9 Coding for Long Term Care”</td>
<td>Birmingham</td>
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<td>June 24th</td>
<td>ANHA Region III Meeting</td>
<td>Golden LivingCenter</td>
<td>12:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>RSVP: Kevin Ball (205) 796-0214</td>
<td>Trussville</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:kball@ballhealth.com">kball@ballhealth.com</a></td>
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**Alabama Nursing Home Association**
4156 Carmichael Road ◆ Montgomery, AL 36106 ◆ PH: (334) 271-6214 ◆ FAX: (334) 244-6509

**WEB SITES:**
Alabama Nursing Home Association [http://www.anha.org](http://www.anha.org)
AL Board of Examiners of Nursing Home Administrators [http://www.alboenha.state.al.us](http://www.alboenha.state.al.us)
AL Dept. of Public Health [http://www.adph.org](http://www.adph.org)