



# NAPNAP-LA Newsletter

[www.lanapnap.org](http://www.lanapnap.org)

**Editor: Nancy Yap**

**November 2006**

## President's Message

Mary Whitten

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### Special points of interest:

- Legislative Updates
- Screening Tools from Medscape Webcasts
- Committee Reports
- "Fever is your Friend"
- Southwest Regional Conference
- Spring 2007 Conference @ CHLA
- Hot Jobs!

Can you believe we are heading into another busy holiday season? Speaking of busy, your NAPNAP-LA board has been hard at work to insure we have yet another successful year.

Just getting in from the Southwest Regional Conference in Palm Springs, I am excited about being a PNP and being involved with all of you! Networking, ambiance and lots of pampering, informational and knowledgeable speakers all culminated in an inspiring weekend. I feel refreshed and ready to return to work.

Judy Cobos has been busy with meetings with CANP. She has been very instrumental in facilitating our liaison with them. We are continuing our group membership with them. You can see our group membership benefits on their website at [www.canpweb.org](http://www.canpweb.org). At the Southwest conference we were given membership forms allowing for a one year personal

membership at only \$90/yr. The regular rate is \$175/yr. Please contact me ASAP if you are interested and I will mail you a form. This is a great deal and an opportunity to support this organization that is at the forefront of legislation of NP interest and livelihood!

[mwhitten@rocketmail.com](mailto:mwhitten@rocketmail.com)

I was in San Jose last weekend representing NAPNAP-LA at a leadership meeting with the AANP. There were people there from California, Arizona and Hawaii representing many NP organizations such as faculty, the BRN, CANP, ANA, and the Red Cross to name a few. The AANP is also at the forefront of representing NP's. We discussed many pertinent, current legislative issues such as funding NP programs, the Doctorate of Nursing, community health care funding, state legislative and practice issues and ordering home health. Found out that we can now sign for handicap plac-

ards. NAPNAP-LA is going to be sending in an application shortly for a group membership with them. It is very important that we work together as NP's to continue our practice and to not have anything taken away. You can read our group membership benefits on their website at [www.aanp.org](http://www.aanp.org)

I would also like to encourage you to know who your legislators are and to contact them. It is very easy, just go to the website [www.leginfo.ca.gov](http://www.leginfo.ca.gov). Click on "Your Legislature" and enter your zip code. You will find names and ways to contact them.

As you can see, there is much happening with our role as NP's. Let's be visible, involved advocates for what we do! It is well documented in studies that nurse practitioners provide excellent care. Let's get out there for our kids!

## NAPNAP's Call to Action

Nancy Yap

**Your help is needed in OPPOSING THE HEALTHCARE TRUTH AND TRANSPARENCY ACT HR 5688.**

I urge you to contact your Representatives in Congress and inform them about the flaws in the **Health Care and Transparency Act (HR 5688)**. The purpose of this act is to provide clear and understandable details to patients. However, this act may inhibit or limit the scopes of practice of nurse practitioners and other non-physician health care professionals. We must educate Congress on the negative aspects of this act and also inform the public on the possible repercussions if it is enacted.

For more information, please visit [www.napnap.org](http://www.napnap.org)



Other sites of interest:

- <http://www.nursingmattersonline.com/newsdetail.asp?newsid=1428>
- <http://www.capitolupdate.org/newsletter/index.asp?nlid=184>
- <http://www.coalitionforpatientsrights.org/>

# Legislative Update

## Mary Whitten

**AB 1591 (Chan)** Medi-Cal reimbursement for all nurse practitioners

Status: signed by the governor. All nationally certified NP's may apply for Medi-Cal provider status and be reimbursed independently for services, effective January 1, 2007.

**AB 2120 (Liu)** CANP sponsored legislation, authorizes all NP's, CNM's and PA's to certify disabled persons parking placards and plates.

Status: signed by the governor, effective January 1, 2007.

**AB 1036 (Koretz)** Child Abandonment Newborns. This bill would revise those provisions to also provide that no parent or other person having lawful custody of a minor child less than 72 hours old or younger may be prosecuted for a violation of those crimes if he or she voluntarily surrenders physical custody of the child to an appropriate person, as defined, in a suitable location, or leaves the child in a suitable location and promptly notifies an appropriate person of the child's location.

Status: died in committee

**AB 1476 (Nakanishi)** Cancer Registry: Reporting juvenile cancer patients. This bill would require that the department of the statewide cancer reporting system or the authorized representative of the department, send to the parent or guardian of each cancer patient who is a minor during the 10 years prior to the minor's cancer diagnosis, or during the lifetime of the minor, whichever time period is shorter a form requesting information on all residences of the minor.

Status: withdrawn by author

**AB 1478 (Frommer)** Developmental Services: Autism Spectrum Disorders. To develop guidelines for the treatment of autism spectrum disorders and to disseminate the information to parents.

Status: vetoed

**AB 1701 (Bass)** Birth Defects Monitoring Program. Requires the assessment of \$2 for every certified copy of a death certificate and for these fees to be deposited into the Birth Defects Monitoring Account which would also be established by this bill.

Status: died in committee

**AB 1779 (Karnette)** Elementary School Physical Education. This would increase the physical education requirements in grades 1-8 to not less than 20 minutes each school day.

Status: died in committee

**AB 1790 (Cohn)** California Fresh Start Pilot Program. Replaces all references to "nutritious" fruits and vegetables with references to "fresh" fruits and vegetable for the CPS Pilot Program. Under this program, school districts could apply for reimbursement of \$0.10/meal for the purchase of nutritious fruits and vegetables which can be canned or fresh but not in juice or deep fried.

Status: withdrawn by author

**SB 38 (Alquist)** Healthy Families Program. Would increase household eligibility limit for the Healthy Families Program from 250% to 300% of the family poverty level.

Status: died in Assembly

**SB 558 (Migden)** Healthy Families and Medi-Cal. Would require an informational document containing certain information regarding Healthy Families Programs to employees. This bill also would allow for employees to have their Healthy Families payments deducted from their paychecks.

Status: died in committee

## New Screening Tools for Providers: Medscape Webcasts

Checking for developmental and behavioral problems in young children with standardized screening instruments is an efficient and effective way to provide high quality and comprehensive preventive care. Clinicians can now learn more about screening through Medscape webcasts.

An archived webcast from 2004 reviews the scientific basis for early child development screening, describes screening tools, and discusses the role that such efforts play in the delivery of high-quality pediatric care. Speakers include child development experts Paul Dworkin, MD and Marian Earls, MD. The webcast may be viewed on the website of The Commonwealth Fund at: [http://www.cmwf.org/General/General\\_show.htm?doc\\_id=247355](http://www.cmwf.org/General/General_show.htm?doc_id=247355)

Another free webcast, sponsored by The Commonwealth Fund in cooperation with the American Academy of Pediatrics and the National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners, discusses behavioral screening in pediatric practice. Evidence shows that behavioral problems frequently presage long-term social and emotional disorders. Featuring Ellen Perrin, MD and Terry Stancin, PhD, this webcast will help child health care providers learn more about the early identification of behavioral problems. This website also offers the opportunity to earn continuing education credits by viewing the webcast and answering a few short questions: <http://www.medscape.com/viewprogram/5719>

The webcasts may be viewed and printed at no charge. Please contact **Katherine Shea** at [ks@cmwf.org](mailto:ks@cmwf.org) for more information.

# Committee Chair Reports

National News: Nancy Yap

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## Membership: Carolina Sandoval

Thanks again to all of you who joined our wonderful professional Los Angeles NAP-NAP Chapter. By renewing your membership you will continue to receive our newsletter, discounts on conferences, PNP job opportunities, updates on legislative activities and an opportunity to network with other PNPs. For those who still want to join, it is never too late to do it! Please feel free to contact me at [carolina\\_sandoval@chino.k12.ca.us](mailto:carolina_sandoval@chino.k12.ca.us) or download your application on the internet at [www.lanapnap.org](http://www.lanapnap.org) under membership. Have a great and safe holidays!

## Scholarship: Denise Alejandro

Scholarship applications will be sent out by the end of this month. For more information, please contact me at [denise.alejandro@gmail.com](mailto:denise.alejandro@gmail.com).

## Community Outreach/Program:

Jody Church

[jochurch@adelphia.net](mailto:jochurch@adelphia.net)

I am happy to be back in my community outreach position. Interestingly (to me, maybe not to anyone else!) I have now come full circle, since this is where I started my reconnection with NAPNAP LA after a very long period of being a general member. Thanks to a little arm-twisting by Cathy Goodhue at one of our National Meetings, I got the bug to get more involved with the chapter. See there is always hope for everyone.

Community Outreach is easy for me, since currently I work at Northeast Valley Health Corporation, a large Community Health Center that serves the San Fernando and Santa Clarita Valleys. By the way, we are always looking for per diem pediatric providers, so if you are looking for some part time work in a great organization, I will list the contact information elsewhere in this newsletter.

The following are the areas I have chosen to pursue:

- Book drive for used books that would be appropriate for teen readers. Many of us could benefit from a little house cleaning if our teens are off to college and have old books. They will be donated to libraries in underserved High Schools.
- Continue the book drive to all events for young readers. These will be donated to local Reach out and Read Programs.
- For another opportunity to clean house for the good of others – the MEND program in Pacoima is always looking for baby clothing to donate to needy families.
- I have several leads to get layette donations for our LA County Newborn Nursery project. “**Big Sunday**” if any of you have heard of it is a huge effort to collect donations and hook up non-profits with people who want to donate. They also provide lots of other cool services for organizations like NAPNAP. They have 2 projects, one is for the holiday season and the other will be next year April 29, 2007. I have already solicited donations from the holiday program, and will do so for the spring one as well. If anyone wants to learn more look up [www.bigsunday.org](http://www.bigsunday.org)

Also, our previous contacts – the Quilting Guild is on my list to renegotiate for donations. We need names of organizations you as NAPNAP members want to make our yearly one time donation of \$1000.00. Mary Whitten gave me the name of Hillside Children’s home – which is a residential treatment center for abused and emotionally disturbed children. If we don’t get any other ideas – that will be the winner!

Finally, just wanted to share a little about the big project I am doing at work, “**Fever is Your Friend.**” Turns out our organization has a very high emergency room utilization rate. When we examined the types of visits, we were surprised to discover that over 20% were children with the diagnosis of FEVER. You know the type, “my baby (18 months old) has had a fever since last night...” So we are trying an educational intervention with 350 families to help them learn what the fever is there for. We hope this will have an impact and make them more comfortable taking care of fever at home. This is a preview of our handout, which I will try to make available to anyone who is interested next year.

*Fever is not an illness; it is the body's response to an infection.*

*Fever is not an illness; it is the body's response to an infection. When your child gets SICK, the brain knows how to increase the body temperature. This heat (or fever) is there to help keep the germs from growing. It's natural. In this way, fever is your friend. Many parents feel afraid as soon as their child gets a fever, but for the first 3 days, you can usually care for your child at home.*

That’s all for now. As far as delivering donations of teen books or baby clothes, not sure how that is going to work yet. But if any of you have these things, please email me and we will figure it out.

## Tijuana Medical Missions: Mariela Nava

Check your email for upcoming trips to Tijuana to provide medical care. For more information, please contact Mariela Nava at [mariela.c.nava@kp.org](mailto:mariela.c.nava@kp.org).

## Website: Francis Yap

If you’d like to send some comments or suggestions for the website, please send them to me at [tetro@lanapnap.org](mailto:tetro@lanapnap.org). Join the NAPNAP-LA community by having discussions in the forums at [www.lanapnap.org](http://www.lanapnap.org).

## Communications/Newsletter: Nancy Yap

If you have recently changed your email address, please send me your updated information at [nyap@sbcglobal.net](mailto:nyap@sbcglobal.net) or [nancy@lanapnap.org](mailto:nancy@lanapnap.org)

**NAPNAP’s 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference on Pediatric Health Care: Rediscovering the Magic** will be held March 21-24, 2007, at Disney’s Coronado Springs Resort, Lake Buena Vista, Florida.

## **2007 Conference Objectives:**

- Rediscover and develop relationships with colleagues from across the country.
- Increase knowledge of health care conditions that affect children and adolescents on a national and international level.
- Provide opportunities to strengthen clinical skills for PNPs who function in a variety of practice settings.
- Explore current advocacy issues and priorities related to children's health care and professional practice.
- Expand your knowledge in the emerging science and health care of children.

# Nineteenth Annual Southwest Regional Conference November 3-5, 2006, Palm Springs Cheryl Deters

The 20<sup>th</sup> annual Southwest Conference was a success. With over 85 attendees, we were treated to some great speakers. Lots of new information from our speakers on updates in allergies, immunization and legislative issues. I am always amazed with how things can change from year to year. It was also informative hearing what was new in adolescent drug use. And what can we say about the NAPNAP HEAT campaign. NAPNAP has done an incredible job putting together this program. The facts on obesity are frightening but it is reassuring to have such a great reference. I'd advise everyone to look at the HEAT Campaign materials. And lastly, the breast-feeding information was an eye opener. You had to have been there to see the videos. All I can say is incredible!

NAPNAP-LA is proud of our members who were also speakers, Margaret Brady on the NAPNAP HEAT Campaign and Kittie Frantz on breast-feeding. Also, congratulations to Kittie on her new position. She has just accepted a faculty placement at the USC Keck School of Medicine. Yes, Kittie will be teaching interns all about newborns and breast-feeding. These doctors will be taught by one of the best!

Besides the PNP's present, we welcomed over a dozen students as well as school nurses. We were please to welcome the president of the Arizona chapter of NAPNAP and 3 other Arizona attendees. PNP's traveled from Fresno and any of us who thought our drive was bad just had to listen to their story! They gave us a lesson in perseverance.

As always, we extend thanks to the sponsors and exhibitors that were present. We very much appreciate their support. Keep your eyes open for announcements about next year's conference.

*These doctors will be taught by one of the best!*

## Upcoming Events: **SAVE the Date!**

The **2nd Annual NAPNAP-LA Spring 2007 Conference** will be on Saturday, April 21, 2007, at **Children's Hospital Los Angeles** Saban Auditorium. Topics will include: Name That Syndrome, X-ray Interpretation, Bullying, Steroid Use in Teen Athletes, Infectious Diseases Update, and (hopefully) Sports Physical/Sports Injuries. Join us for a great learning and networking experience! **All Pediatric Health Care Professionals Invited (PNP's, FNP's, PA's, Pediatric RN's, School RN's).**

Contact **Cathy Goodhue** at (323) 660-2450 x2862 or [cgoodhue@chla.usc.edu](mailto:cgoodhue@chla.usc.edu) for more information.

## Educational Dinner

### NAPNAP-LA

Cordially invites you to a rountable discussion on

**"The Difficult Child"**

**with Cecelia Essin, MD**

Pediatrician, Director of Behavioral Pediatrics

Los Angeles Women's and Children's Hospital

Wednesday, December 6, 2006

6:00 pm arrival

6:30 pm Dinner and Discussion

Il Fornaio Restaurant

24 West Union Street

Pasadena, CA 91103

(626) 683-0789

This event is supported by a generous unrestricted education grant from **Novartis Pharmaceuticals.**

Complimentary valet parking at Forever 21. Seating is very limited. RSVP by December 1 to **Judy Cobos** at (909) 374-6052 or at [j.cobos2@verizon.net](mailto:j.cobos2@verizon.net).

Please remember to bring a new hard or soft cover children's/adolescent book for NAPNAP-LA's community outreach project.

## Featured Job Opportunities

This is an opportunity for a nurse practitioner to work in Olive View's Suspected Child Abuse/Hub clinic. The responsibilities would include both evaluating children referred for suspected abuse and neglect and performing "well child" exams on children detained by the courts. Training, including opportunities to attend national conferences, is, of course, included (and is highly encouraged). The Clinic operates 8:30 to 5:00 Monday through Friday. Anyone who is interested can contact me using [rmolodow@ladhs.org](mailto:rmolodow@ladhs.org) or call the SCAN/Hub clinic (818-364-4680) and ask for **Dr. Roma Molodow** or **Nadine Luis**, the Social Worker. They can also call the peds office at 818-364-3233.

Looking for FT, PT or per diem work utilizing your PNP skills? Northeast Valley Health Corporation may be the place for you! Interested in caring for the underserved? Northeast Valley Health Corporation is the largest community health center with 10 licensed sites in the San Fernando and Santa Clarita Valleys. It sounds big, but it really is a small, friendly organization who has great respect for Nurse Practitioners. Check out their web site [www.nevhc.org](http://www.nevhc.org)

Interested parties may call **Blandina Alcantar** at our corporate headquarters 818 8981388 ext. 41615

(I have worked there 4 years and couldn't be happier – call me at (818) 760-7639 if you have questions – **Jody Church**)

I am the Pediatric Administrator at Harbor-UCLA Medical Center.

Currently, there are three openings for Pediatric Nurse Practitioners

-  
Neurology, Conscious Sedation and Endocrinology/Metabolism.

If interested, please contact me at:

**Pam Shea**

Administrator  
Department of Pediatrics  
Harbor-UCLA Medical Center  
1000 West Carson Street  
Torrance, CA 90509  
(310) 222-2342  
[pshea@ucla.edu](mailto:pshea@ucla.edu)

## NAPNAP-LA Calendar

**December 2<sup>nd</sup>** Board meeting (in person) at home of Carolina Sandoval.

Study on a female with Fragile X Syndrome will be presented

**December 6<sup>th</sup>** educational dinner in Pasadena on "The Difficult Child"

**February 2007** scholarship applications go out to the schools.

**Deadline for return April 30<sup>th</sup>.**

**Monday, February 19<sup>th</sup>** Board meeting PHONE CONFERENCE 7pm

**March 21-24, 2007** NAPNAP National Conference, Orlando Florida

**April 21, 2007** NAPNAP-LA/CHLA Conference

**April 2007** NAPNAP-LA elections Prez-elect, treasurer and secretary - mail ballots

**April 28<sup>th</sup>** Board meeting (in person) to do Pal of the Year, One of Our Own and review the Scholarship applicants at home of Judy Cobos.

**Saturday June 2<sup>nd</sup>** June Dinner

**June 23<sup>rd</sup>** Board meeting (in person) at home of Mary Whitten

All NAPNAP-LA Members are welcome and encouraged to attend board meetings.

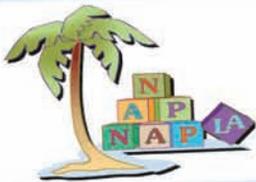
# NAPNAP-LA's Rewards Program!

When you join **National NAPNAP**, please write NAPNAP-LA up in the upper right hand corner of the application. We will get credit towards our annual fees, fees for chapter CE programs and registrations at the annual conference.

## Benefits of membership include:

- Subscription to the Journal of Pediatric Health Care
- Networking Opportunities
- Conference discounts, and more!

We're on the web!  
[www.lanapnap.org](http://www.lanapnap.org)



**Nancy Ann Yap**

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