

FMC staff receives cutting-edge ER training at Tulane University

Just a day after a team from Franklin Medical Center went to Tulane University in New Orleans to learn how to better respond to medical emergencies, they got an unexpected chance to put their lessons into action.

Emergency room doctors and nurses, who had spent the day earlier using specialized robotic patient simulators to practice emergency labor and delivery techniques, faced the same real-life situation when a patient walked into the hospital about to give birth. Typically, the hospital works to stabilize women in labor for transport to another facility, but this patient and her baby weren't going to wait.

"She was in active labor. There was no way I was going to transfer her," said ER physician Dr. Jeffrey Combetta, who immediately summoned his team together. "We were ready for anything, and we were ready because we had just come from the simulator. It was wonderful teamwork."

The woman gave birth to a healthy baby boy named Travis.

More than 18 doctors and nurses from Franklin Medical Center are taking part in a series of two-day intensive training sessions at the Tulane Center for Advanced Medical Simulation and Team Training, a 14,000-square-foot facility dedicated to improving patient safety and preventing medical errors through comprehensive training in a realistic hospital environment.

Tulane's Rural Emergency Department Training uses



NURSE AMY Bassett (left), FMC Emergency Department ICU director and (right) **Dr. Jeffrey Combetta**, family medicine physician, respond to a robotic patient in respiratory distress during emergency training at the Tulane Center for Advanced Medical Simulation and team training. More than 18 staff members from the hospital are taking part in intensive emergency medicine training at Tulane. Simulation Specialist **Thomas Turner** (Center) operates the robotic which breathes, cries and even mimics the pulse of a 5-month-old baby. (Submitted photos)

lifelike robotic patients to simulate emergency situations that rural doctors may not see on a regular basis. Teams work through high-stress scenarios such as reviving a patient after a heart attack, responding to trauma injuries or giving life-saving treatment to babies who've stopped breathing. They also practice obstetric and postpartum emergencies.

"The simulator helps us feel more comfortable doing things that would normally take place at a bigger hospital," Combetta said.

Blake Kramer, administrator of Franklin Medical Center, says that while the

hospital ER may not see many cases of labor complications or emergency c-sections, it is important that they be able to respond to those cases should one come in the door. "While this is kind of an extraordinary occurrence for us, the extraordinary occurrences are the ones that require the most preparation," Kramer says. "Having gone down to Tulane and having experienced the program there, that's the kind of thing that prepares you for events like this and you're not going to get that training anywhere else."

Franklin Medical Center concludes its ER training at Tulane on May 25.

Cobb warns of Internet dangers at monthly chamber meeting

Children and teenagers are often more technologically savvy than their parents and parents should take time to educate themselves on dangers associated with the Internet.

Franklin Parish Sheriff's Office Chief Deputy **Kevin Cobb** Thursday spoke to the Winnsboro-Franklin Chamber of Commerce at the Princess Room in downtown Winnsboro to help educated adults on some of the things young people face with the World Wide Web and other technology.

"When I was coming up, like most of the people sitting in this room, there were a lot of things that I didn't have to deal with and the Internet was one of them," Cobb said.

The presentation was similar to others Cobb has given in recent months to local schools, churches and civil organizations on Internet safety and awareness.

As many as one in five children have been solicited sexually on the Internet, Cobb said, and it's a problem that has reached Franklin Parish.

Cobb related an incident involving FPSO last year, when a 25 year-old man drive hours to Winnsboro to meet who he thought was a teenage girl, but was actually an undercover law enforcement official.

"He opened up the door waiting to see a 14 year-old girl and there were four or five sheriff's deputies there to welcome him to Franklin Parish," he said.



including cyber-bullying and "sexting" — sending explicit language and pornography over cellular telephones.

There are steps parents can take to protect their children for all hazards the Information Age has created.

Foremost among them is keeping close watch on what they do online and the ways your children communicate electronically with others, Cobb said.

"Keep you computer in a common area and if your children have a cell phone, you should check it every day," he said. "Be aware that this is real and it's happening everyday."

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NOTICE

NORTH FRANKLIN WATER WORKS MEMBERS

The Annual Meeting of North Franklin Water Works, Inc. will be held Tuesday, May 25, 2010 at 7 p.m. at the Gullede-Richardson Community Center.

All members are invited to attend this meeting.

MAY BUSINESS OF THE MONTH



PICTURED ABOVE are FMC staff and Winnsboro-Franklin Chamber of Commerce board members from left, Jane Clark, FMC Administrator Blake Kramer, Terri Spence, Nathan Roberts, April Winborne, Charlotte Boone, Mark Spence of FMC and chamber president Howard Dee Smith. (Sun photo by Monica Huff)

Franklin Medical Center

The Winnsboro-Franklin Chamber of Commerce has selected FMC to receive the May Business of the Month.

Franklin Medical Center has proudly provided healthcare to Franklin Parish for 40 years. As an integral part of the community, their mission is to provide the highest quality health care and customer satisfaction to all those they serve.

Franklin Medical Center is one of the leading medical facilities in the region. The hospital offers many services to the patients: behavioral health, intensive care, radiology, respiratory therapy, telemedicine, and family practice.

Last year brought many new beginnings to the employees and administration of FMC. They have built a team of healthcare professionals the residents of Franklin Parish can depend on. FMC is, "Where the patient comes first."

TO THE PEOPLE OF WINNSBORO

I would like to thank you for your support and vote in the election on May 1. This is the beginning of a new era in our great city. Mayor Jack Hammons did a great job leading our city and left us in great shape. I plan on building on his legacy and lead our city in a direction of growth and prosperity.

I want to thank Ken Hill, my worthy and gracious opponent in this race. He ran an honorable campaign and is an honorable man. I plan on calling on him for his assistance, particularly in the area of job growth and economic development.

There are so many people who over the years have progressed our city, Roxy and Skipp have done phenomenal jobs, and I look forward to working with them in the future as we grow our community. Their work and input are invaluable to the continued growth and vigor of Winnsboro.

Kay LaFrance-Knight has done an

excellent job making historic downtown Winnsboro grow and become a major drawing point for our city once again. Anything that our city can do to help and aid her we need to do. It is imperative that she is successful for Winnsboro to be successful.

We now go forward into the future as one city, one community, united. We will not become fractious and petty but stand together to lift our community and its citizens. We are Winnsboro strong and mighty. We face our future with strength and courage knowing that we shall grow. We shall bring in industry, we will have safe streets, we will be a city that will be a blessing to our children and our children's children. With faith in God and his guidance, we shall be stronger, unified as one family united in love for our city, our community, and our divine Father, we boldly step into tomorrow.

Your Mayor-Elect, **JACKIE JOHNSON**

Paid for by Jackie Johnson

Don't miss the May edition of the **Franklin Opry!**

Saturday, May 15

Showtime: 7 p.m. Princess Theatre

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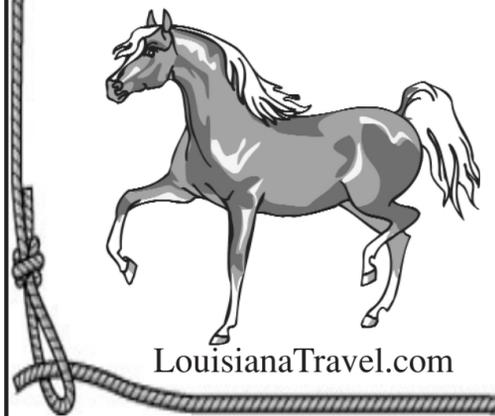
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