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# News

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\*\*\*\*\*Liver education group to hold first public meeting

DALLAS--People have had some pretty funny ideas about the liver and how to cure its diseases since early times:

- \* Prometheus had his miraculously regenerating liver eaten each night by vultures as a punishment for stealing fire from the gods and giving it to man--so the ancient Greeks said.
- \* North American Indians near Saratoga Springs bathed in the spring water to cure their liver diseases--until the white man discovered the "healing waters" and turned the area into a resort. The Indians had to give up their water cure because they couldn't afford resort prices.
- \* William Henry Harrison died after only a month in the nation's highest office after being bled, given emetics and purges and swallowing such drugs as cocaine and raw petroleum. His cold might have improved eventually--but his liver gave out.

The liver is still something people don't know much about today. That's why the North Texas Chapter of the American Liver Foundation is sponsoring its first public meeting for patients with liver diseases, their families and their friends. The public seminar will be held May 28 at Beasley Auditorium, Baylor University Medical Center, at 7:30 p.m. A panel of physicians specializing in liver diseases will discuss these diseases and their treatment in children and adults. Patients will also be present to talk about their experiences. Time will be given for questions from the audience.

Program participants will include Drs. Elwood Jones, president of the North Texas group; Daniel Polter, head of gastroenterology at Baylor University Medical Center; Burton Combes, professor of medicine and head of the Liver Unit at The University of Texas Health Science Center at Dallas; and Mary Adler, Dallas real estate saleswoman. Combes is a member of the board of directors of the American Liver Foundation and a founding member of that group.

For further information call 688-3440.

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