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Information for the Oklahoma Nursing & Health Care Professional

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Vol. 19 Issue 17

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Jane Lowrey, RN (left) and Christine Fisher, RN, MSN have found a new nursing passion as they pursue education.

by Bobby Anderson, Staff Writer

The light went on for Christine Fisher, RN, MSN a while back.

She loved nursing, so much so that she wanted to further her nursing knowledge. And not only that, she wanted to spread that knowledge to others.

Now, Fisher teaches full time in the traditional BSN program at Oklahoma City University's Kramer School of Nursing and in her spare time she's in her second year of her PhD in nursing.

"I've always wanted to teach," Fisher said. "Most nurses, that's not their thing."

Fisher says it was actually OCU Dean Lois Salmeron, EdD, RN, MS, CNE, ANEF, who inspired her to continue learning.

While Fisher was finishing her ADN at Oklahoma State University Oklahoma City, Fisher had a visitor.

"She came into one of our senior classes and

said 'Some of you are going to have to come back and teach because we're getting older,"" Fisher recalled. "It was my calling. So my entire nursing career has been based on the fact I'm going back to teach."

Fisher has worked in six different nursing fields since then. She found a passion for management along the way.

She started in cardiac critical care. Three years in, one of the heart surgeons asked if she would work for him. She worked for a cardiovascular surgeon and partnered with his vascular surgeon doing rounds while they were in the operating room.

It was a case management-type role that allowed Fisher to coordinate care for clients from pre-op through discharge to home.

Six years into that role one of her girlfriends asked her to come to Moore to work in recovery. She also branched out there as a house

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Julie's Journey Agape Road



Julie Brown, RN is Executive Director of Agape Road. This will be a home for Hospice patients to be cared for at no charge to the patients.

by Vicki Jenkens - Writer/Photographer

It wasn't long ago that Julie Brown, RN retired. She was a Hospice nurse for the last 20 years and an RN for a total of 41 years and now, she has retired. She has always had a special gift of taking care of others. Now, Julie has another adventure to look forward to. Her new title is Executive Director

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BROWN

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of Agape Road. Have you heard about it? Not likely, but you will! What is Agape Road? "This will be a home where Hospice patients can stay in the last few months of their lives; with 24-hour care and the patient's cost will be nothing. I've been thinking about this for the last 5 years and now, it is actually happening," Julie said with a smile. "It is a God thing and I know He is calling me to do this. Even though I have been a Hospice nurse for 20 years, being a caregiver for Hospice patients for free will be a different concept," she added.

It's been 3 months since Julie, founder of Agape Road and the executive board began the project and Julie is excited to see what this new adventure holds for her.

Why Agape Road? "I wanted to go into this because I see so many people in need of caregivers. It's hard to get through the dying process. I think some people are afraid of death and I want to take away the fear. In Agape Road, it will be a place where Hospice patients

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can come and be taken care of in their last days. The requirements for Agape Road will be that they be a Hospice patient, have 3 months or less to live and have a DNR. The caregivers will have 8-hour shifts on round-the-clock care." Julie said.

"There are 20 of us on the executive board. Right now, we are looking for a location that will have the accommodations that are needed. We are going to start with a 6 month pilot of 2-3 patients to see how we do. We are hoping to move up to10 patients as time goes on. We are modeling our home after one of the two in Tulsa, OK. There is also a home located in Bartlesville, OK. Agape Road will be the only one that will not charge for the patient. We hope to be moved in and running Agape Road by the end of 2018," Julie commented. "God is definitely leading me to take on this new

I ask Julie what makes a caregiver. "Caregivers have to want to care for others from inside their heart. They need to be driven, never giving up, and have genuine love and compassion. They should know that it can be a hard and thankless job, but it is all worth it."

What advice would you give to someone going into the medical field? "Learn to be a good listener, do the best you can," she answered

Julie's first job as a nurse was at Central Kansas Medical Center in Great Bend, Kansas. She moved to Oklahoma City, OK at the age of 21. When she is not working on Agape Road, she likes to spend time watching sports, reading books and doing yard work.

"I am going into something new due to seeing so many people in need and not knowing how to get through the dying process; no one teaches us how to die. I want to help people understand. People are afraid of death and I want to take away their fear. It is a sacred process when a person takes their last breath. Agape Road is not a Hospice house, it is a place to take care of Hospice patients and I want to be that caregiver," Julie said.

What is the greatest reward that you get from being a caregiver? "It is the love that you get from the people that you help, the relationships that you make it's priceless," Julie says with a positive, quick reply.

I asked Julie how others would describe her. "I want others to see Jesus in me. I want them to see the kindness and caring in my heart and let them know the love comes from God."

Agape Road? Yes, it will be interesting to see the end result of Julie's journey.

INTEGRIS Children's Now Uses Remote Control Cars to Take Kids to Surgery

Kids are racing through the halls of INTEGRIS Baptist Medical Center in new remote control cars. It's all part of an ongoing effort to make the hospital less intimidating to children.

The Delta Theta Chi sorority donated the cars to INTEGRIS Children's to help transport kids to surgery and other procedures. Ashley Ochs, M.A., CCLS, is a child life specialist at INTEGRIS. She says the idea is to make an otherwise scary situation more positive.

"Traditionally kids would be wheeled into surgery either in their hospital bed or carried by a staff member, which can be frightening because they don't know what's going on or where they're going. Even though we tell them and show them pictures before taking them, it's still scary to have to leave your parents to go to the operating room. But with the cars, it's fun and exciting. They even get to listen to their favorite song as they go, like they would on a car radio."

Even though the cars were just recently revealed, Paul Digoy, M.D., a pediatric ENT at INTEGRIS, says they are already making a big impact.

"These kids are in a new environment. Often they're scared or anxious and they don't know a lot of the people around them. So the cars seem to take their mind off what is happening and gets them to the operating room in a non-stressful way. And we know that how children go to sleep predicts how they wake up. This means a child who goes to sleep scared under anesthesia, will wake up the same way. But if a child goes under happy and comfortable they tend to wake up with less crying and concern."

He adds, "I think the cars are making a huge difference. The only hard part now, is getting them out of the car. I think this is going to be a game changer for us."

The cars not only make the experience more positive for the children, but for the parents as well. "Sometimes parents are more worried than their children," admits Digoy. "Then to see their child being taken into surgery crying and visibly upset, it can be heart wrenching for them."

Ochs agrees, "Parents have been vocal about how much better this experience has been compared to past experiences. They've been relieved to see their child head to surgery with a smile on their face."

While the kids think they're really



driving the cars, they're actually being operated remotely by a near-by nurse. Seat-belts are even included for extra safety. The cars are intended for younger children, but older kids can use them as long as they are able to fit inside.

There are three cars in total, two in the surgery department and one in the pediatric department to take kids to procedures like blood draws and X-rays.

POSTER

Continued from Page 1

supervisor.

She was again plucked away, but this time by an anesthesiologist to work cases and round on patients.

She assisted on procedures as well as serving as the clinic manager.

Finding herself wearing a lot of hats she toyed with going back to get her nurse practitioner. But there was no time with her 16-hour days.

As luck would have it, she paired back her time and became a health assistant for Norman Public Schools which eventually turned into a position as the RN at Norman North High School.

Oklahoma City University Community Health nursing students would visit.

"I was so impressed with them just the caliber of person that was coming out of there for nursing," Fisher said. "I fell in love with the students and in love with the professors."

After 20 years in nursing she decided to get her master's through Grand Canyon University.

"When I found out my Dean was the Dean of Kramer I knew that was exactly where I was supposed to be," Fisher said.

"I'm passionate about nursing and nursing is 90 percent education. We do it every day with every client. I have a passion for transferring that passion on to other nurses. I love to teach because I want them to be as excited about it as I am an be so proud to be a nurse."

"If you're that proud you're going to do a good job. When I see that passion awaken in them, I can't even explain the feeling, it's so awesome."

LEARNING MORE

Fisher, along with Jane Lowrey, RN presented research recently at the Oklahoma Nurses Association Annual Convention tackling the topic of touch in nursing.

"It's just like our stethoscope - we use it every day," Fisher said. "We have male counterparts in nursing and they have to use the same skill. None of us talk about how do you go about using touch."

Therapeutic touch, empathetic touch, touching for assessment - so many different forms. For her it was second nature, but what about for male nurses?

"How do men go about doing that because it's not a traditional role," Fisher said. "Men have not traditionally been in nursing since Florence Nightingale. How do they do that? Is it an issue?"

"When we did our study and we talked with these men it's a conscious thought they have as a new nurse. They have to think about it."

Fisher realized that she had never been asked for an assignment change, while her male counterparts reported that they had.

"That happens regularly for my happy to teach.

male nursing students especially in OB or in med/surg when they have to have a catheter we regularly hear 'can we get a female nurse,"' Fisher said. "They do deal with it but no one ever talks to them about it. It's not in any of the textbooks."

But it's something that can be learned.

And for Fisher, something she's happy to teach.





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In Loving Memory of Randy and Owen Eldridge and Gay Eldridge Hannan



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Nursing Times embraces digital world

Driven by more than 100 years of journalistic experience, Oklahoma's Nursing Times has proudly served Oklahoma's nursing community weekly in print and online for nearly two decades.

With increasing advertiser requests for digital packaging and social media readership eclipsing 20,000 readers, Metro Publishing has announced the paper will move exclusively to an alldigital delivery with the exception of special editions like National Nursing Week and Oklahoma's College Guide to Nursing.

Publisher Steve Eldridge said the move allows more resources to be allocated to a format the majority of readers already prefer. In addition, the all digital format will allow for more timely news with immediate E-publications, Job Alerts and Digital Packages that include Facebook postings and Job board placement along with the continued pdf print edition that will continue to be published each week as it has for nearly 20 years. Though print pdf rates will continue to be offered, all new digital packages are

added to allow recruiters access to the best opportunities to find that special nurse and fill difficult positions.

Oklahoma's Nursing Times is the only local publication that offers features and news content specifically intended to support hospitals, clinics, hospices, nursing and assisted living homes, universities and other nursing facilities and the nurses that work for them. Recruiters learn the value in the passive reader that applies after reading a story about their organization in addition to the direct applications from advertising positions with OKNT.

"The move to an all-digital format just makes sense on multiple fronts," Eldridge explained. "No. 1, this format allows nurses to access content on their devices, on their own time schedule. It also allows nurses to more easily share interesting, relevant content with one another. Nurses won't need to locate a copy or wait for delivery. The move also allows us to expand our reach to the entire state more effectively."

"From an environmental standpoint, Metro Publishing is able to reduce its footprint while at the same time

still delivering the quality content our readers have come to expect."

Eldridge noted the Nursing Times' more than 20,000 weekly readers can look forward to more robust, interactive online content in the coming months including interviews with nursing recruiters, other nursing leaders and nurses excelling in their profession.

Readers are encouraged to contact Eldridge with story ideas by emailing news@okcnursingtimes or visit the Oklahoma's Nursing Times Facebook page or website.

"We have highlighted Oklahoma's nursing community in words and images weekly for 19 years now, highlighting the successes of caregivers all at no charge to our readers," "We look forward Eldridge said. to continuing that tradition through a format that better serves our readership.

Metro Publishing has a history of innovation

The digital job board has long been the most comprehensive local source of nursing positions available in our state.

In recent years, Metro Publishing purchased the former Seasoned Reader and rebranded and redesigned it to Senior News and Living.

The move brought an additional 60,000 readers into the Metro Publishing

Across the globe, the process of mushing up dead trees to bring readers news is rapidly coming to an end.

The newspaper industry began transitioning to a digital-only form in earnest more than a decade ago.

One of the nation's largest papers the Seattle Post-Intelligencer - has delivered a digital-only format since

The New York Times, Washington Post, Wall Street Journal, USA Today and Los Angeles Times - the top five circulating papers in the U.S. - all offer digital-only subscriptions.

In 2008, the Internet surpassed print media as the way the majority of people receive their news, according to a Pew Research study. While subscriptions to Oklahoma's Nursing Times Digital edition continues to grow

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OAHCR is a statewide organization of professionals who have joined together to:

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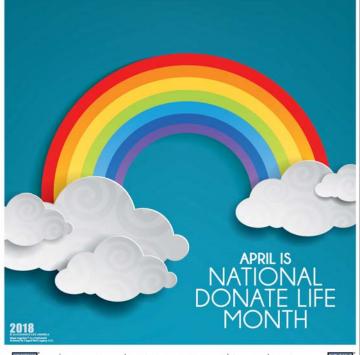
2) network/share pertinent information on recruitment and retention of healthcare professionals.



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DIGITAL

Continued from Page 4

rapidly, very few requests are made for the print edition. "The nursing audience is a highly educated and technical group of readers and have proven the preference for a digital product" said Eldridge.

According to Pew: * In the U.S., roughly nine in 10 adults receive their news online either via mobile or desktop formats * Digital advertising continues to grow as a proportion of total advertising revenue, increasing \$12\$ billion from 2015 to 2016. * Total estimated circulation for U.S. daily newspapers has declined steadily since

1980 as more and more readers receive their news in other formats. * But since 2014, the average number of newspaper website unique visitors has nearly doubled.

Late in 2017, studies showed the gap between people who receive their news online versus television also declined to just a seven-percent difference. Local, network and cable news networks reported declines across the industry as consumers increasingly go online for content.

As always you can go online to www.oknursingtimes.com to access current and archived content or email news@okcnursingtimes.com to have it delivered to your inbox.

Positive Aging Institute

Knee Center for Strong Families Positive Aging Initiative Continuing Education Program in Social Work and Counseling

When: Thursday, April 26, 2018 at 8:30am CT - 4:30pm CT Where: NorthCare of Oklahoma City, 2617 General Pershing Boulevard, Oklahoma City, OK 73107. CE Credits: This event offers 6.0 CE credits to attendees. CE accredited by Continuing Education Approved: LCSW, LSW, LSW-Adm. (6.5 hrs., including one hour of ethics) Home Care and Hospice Administrators (6.5 hrs., including one hour of ethics) LADC (6.5 hrs., including one hour of ethics) LPC and LMFT (6hrs., including one hour of ethics) LPNs, RNs (6.5 hrs., including one hour of ethics) Continuing Education Requested: Nursing Home Administrators and Certified Assistant Administrators (6 hrs.) RC/AL, Residential Care, and Adult Day Administrators (6 hrs.). Cost: \$65.00 with CE credits \$20.00 without CE credits Lunch will be provided. Topic: Full list provided here: https:// okhpna.nursingnetwork.com/ PosAgeConfAgenda_2018 Speaker(s): Roberto E. Medina, MD Assistant Professor Reynolds Department of Geriatric Medicine Mark A Stratton, Pharm.D., BCGP, FASHP Professor Emeritus OU College of Pharmacy Jacqueline L. Millspaugh, M.Ed., LPC Clinical Support Manager Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services Karen Orsi, BA Director Oklahoma Mental Health and Aging Coalition. Additional Information: For information and accommodations please contact Diane Freeman by phone (405)325-2822 or dkfreeman@ou.edu. Sponsored by OU Fran Ziegler and Earl Ziegler College of Nursing.

Palliative Care Symposium

Palliative Care Symposium on Symptom Management Sponsored by Oklahoma Chapter of HPNA

When: Friday, April 27, 2018 at 8:00am - 4:30pm.

Where: Norman Regional Hospital Education Center, 901 North Porter Avenue, Norman, OK 73071. Who Should Attend: Nurses, home health and long-term care providers, physicians, social workers, and other hospice and palliative care providers from acute, post-acute, home and chronic care settings. Topic: Numerous Speaker(s): Dr. Sarah Yoakam, MD, Dr. Sarah Minor, DO, Dr. Bryan Struck, MD, Dr. Peter Winn, MD Professor at OUHSC, Dr. Rachel Funk-Lawler, PhD, Becky Lowery, APRN, CNS, AOCN, Additional Information: The Oklahoma Chapter of the Hospice and Palliative Nurse's Association is offering an interactive and interdisciplinary education forum for nurses and other healthcare professionals. Our aim is to increase healthcare provider awareness, knowledge and skills necessary to provide supportive and palliative care and symptom management throughout all phases of the palliative and hospice care trajectory. Please register at https://okhpna.nursingnetwork.com*free to Norman Regional Employees*.

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204 REGISTERED NURSE

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Oklahoma's

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8th annual steer wrestling event to raise money for cancer research

annual Cross Family Benefit for the Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation on May 6 in Kingfisher.

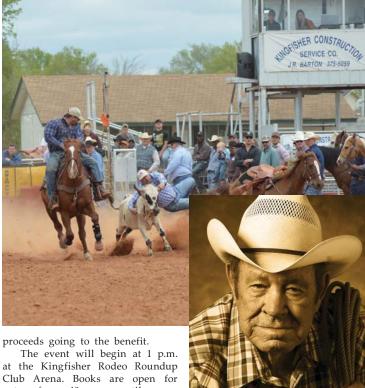
The event honors the life of Floyd Cross, who battled and defeated recurring bouts of liver and colon cancer for 12 years before passing away in 2016. The Cross family launched the event in 2011 to celebrate Floyd and to support cancer research at OMRF.

This year's event will also honor the memory of Jenni Spray, a beloved cousin of the Cross family, who passed away in 2017 after fighting cerebral palsy for her entire life. Event organizers will present the Floyd Cross Memorial Steer Wrestling Jackpot in her honor.

Cowboys from across the country for cancer and childhood diseases at will saddle up for the eighth the Oklahoma City-based nonprofit research institute.

> "The Cross family's wrestling competition shows exactly how Oklahomans can band together to do something meaningful to help combat disease and to have some fun doing it," said OMRF Vice President of Development Penny Voss. "We are grateful for the hard work that goes into this event. It's a real grassroots effort that brings the community together for a cause we can all get behind: fighting cancer."

In addition to the steer wrestling competition and event t-shirt sales, raffle tickets will be sold for \$1 each or six for \$5. They will also be accepting donations. There will also be concessions All profits will go to research featuring pulled pork, with all



Floyd Cross. The Cross Family Benifit honors Floyd Cross's Life.

entry from 10 a.m. until noon. Admission is free. To enter or for more information, call Sherrie Cross at (405) 313-1776.

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Stephenson Cancer Center Joins Elite Precision Medicine Alliance in Cancer Care



The Stephenson Cancer Center has joined the prestigious Oncology Research Information Exchange Network (ORIEN), a personalized medicine consortium that includes of some of the nation's leading cancer centers and that aims to develop more personalized and effective treatments for cancer.

"Precision medicine is a driving force behind cancer care and research," said Kathleen Moore, MD, associate director of clinical research at the Stephenson Cancer Center. "The ability to match patients with targeted trials based on the individual molecular profile of their tumor is the future of cancer care."

ORIEN allows clinicians and researchers at member centers to leverage multiple data sources and match patients to promising new cancer treatments targeted specifically to a patient's tumor.

Partner centers use a common protocol, known as Total Cancer Care®, to track the molecular, clinical, and epidemiological data of consenting patients throughout their lifetimes. The resulting database of consenting patients is used by researchers to better understand cancer at the molecular level. With over 200.000

participating patients, ORIEN is one of the world's largest clinically annotated cancer tissue repositories.

"Our partnership with other leading cancer centers through the ORIEN network, when coupled with the Stephenson Cancer Center's national leadership in National Cancer Institute (NCI)-sponsored clinical research, means that Oklahomans will have more opportunities to access therapies tailored for their individual cancers," said Robert Mannel, MD, director of the Stephenson Cancer Center.

The Stephenson Cancer Center currently leads the nation in the number of patients participating in clinical trials sponsored by the NCI's National Clinical Trials Network (NCTN), the world's premier network for developing and conducting clinical trials to advance new cancer therapies. Mannel currently serves as the chair of NRG Oncology, the largest organizational arm of the NCTN.

There are currently 18 ORIEN members, including the some of the nation's top cancer centers like the Moffit Cancer Center, The James Cancer Hospital at Ohio State University, and City of Hope.



Vicki L Mayfield, M.Ed., R.N., LMFT Marriage and Family Therapy Oklahoma City If you would like to send a question to Vicki, email us at news@okcnursingtimes.com

Attention all single people who are dating: Back away from saying Yes to the date unless you have your "Deal Breaker List in your pocket." Why are deal breakers important? You are a target for all sorts of dysfunctional codependent relationships if you do not know when to say, "Thank you for dinner but I don't think this will work for me."

If he/she is a smoker and you do not like cigarette smells and tastes then stop right there. Don't be like Sherry who noticed John's teeth were yellow from smoking but thought, "maybe I can get him to use Crest White Strips and convince him to stop smoking." So they kept dating and John showed no interest in the white strips or stopping smoking.

Jim enjoyed his date with Cathy until she pulled out her phone and laid it by her plate and checked every text that came in. Her eyes were down more than up. John thought maybe this was unusual for Cathy to be so connected to her phone, so he planned another date. Cathy did the same thing on date #2. If Jim has "glued to technology" as one of his deal breakers this would be the last date.

Lindsey was a traveler and enjoyed seeing the world. Randy had never left Oklahoma. He could not feel any of that excited energy that spilled out of Lindsey when she talked about some of her adventures. Randy was a home body and travel was not his passion. If Lindsey has "no interest in travel" on her deal breaker list she will not continue dating Randy.

See how this works? Its simple, really. If people know the difference in what they will not tolerate vs what might be a bit annoying at times but not that big of a deal, there would probably be less marital and relationship stress and possibly lower the high divorce rates.

So what could go on a deal breaker list? *One sided conversation -- If he/she does not show an interest in you, if its all about them....deal breaker. *Alcohol --You do not want to be with someone who cannot drink socially, if too many drinks on first date.....deal breaker. *Phone -- If your date cannot separate from their phone during dinner.....deal breaker. *Children -- You want them, he doesn't......Big deal breaker. *Children -- You have raised your children and want to be free of that responsibility, she has young children at home.....deal breaker. *Religion -- You attend church regularly and want to be with someone who also values that commitment, he is not sure of his religious beliefs calling himself an agnostic......deal breaker.

Remember the idea behind deal breakers is not to be so desperate that you settle for someone that may not be a good fit. It can be dangerous and overwhelming not to have deal breakers. So if you are out there dating and have not written down your deal breakers......back away, get paper and pencil.....start writing!!!



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