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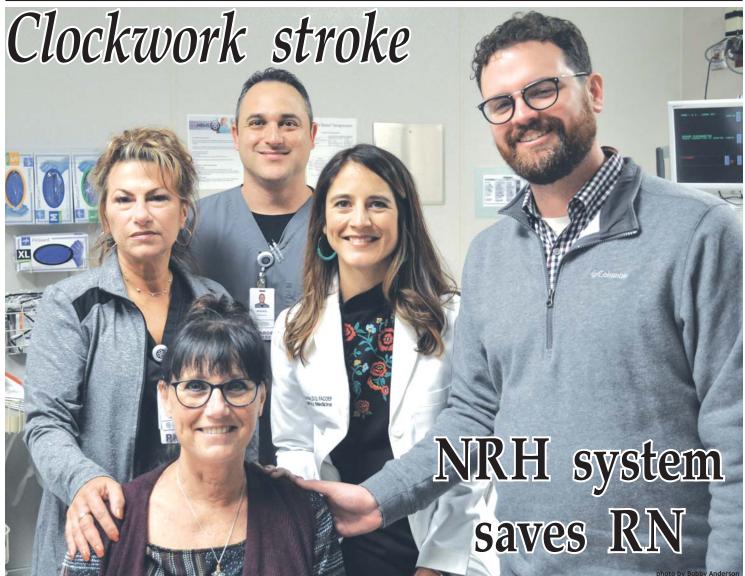
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February 25, 2019

Information for the Oklahoma Nursing & Health Care Professional

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Kim Shannon, seated, had an entire system working for her including Drs. Angela Carrick and Michael Porter when she survived a massive stroke one year ago.

by Bobby Anderson, RN, Staff Writer

It was the morning of January 10, 2018 and Kim Shannon, RN, woke up to start another day. As a clinical instructor for Moore Norman Technology Center, Shannon would be checking on students at clinical sites across the metro.

Only if she could get the bathroom door knob

"I couldn't make it turn," Shannon remembers.
"I remember getting really upset that my arm was

That doorknob never turned as Shannon went through the initial phases of a massive stroke. But little did she know her husband's call to 911 would set in motion a finely-tuned process that would save her life.

"I'm kind of an anomaly," Shannon said one year later. "Most people that have the kind of stroke I had are dead or they're not able to communicate in any

See SHANNON Page 2

SHANNON Continued from Page 1

way.

"God just wasn't ready for me. Everybody was in place at the right time."

That phone call started an EMSSTAT ambulance to her location East of Hwy 9 in Norman. Paramedics quickly realized the situation and radioed ahead a Code Stroke to Norman Regional Hospital's Porter Campus.

"They didn't waste any time," Shannon said. "The paramedic started an IV while we were driving and they were driving fast. She told me 'we're going lights and sirens. Don't be scared. We just need to get you there quickly.""

TIME IS BRAIN

According to the American Heart Association journal, Stroke, every minute in which a large vessel ischemic stroke is untreated, the average patient loses 1.9 million neurons, 13.8 billion synapses, and seven miles of axonal fibers. Each hour in which treatment fails to occur, the brain loses as many neuron as it does in almost 3.6 years of normal aging.

That's why ER staff were waiting

at the door.

As luck would have it Carla Lewis, RN, was there, too.

"She and I went to nursing school together," Shannon smiled. "I had known her forever. That made me comfortable right away. I knew Carla was going to take good care of me."

ER Dr. Michael Porter was there, too, assessing Shannon and explaining if she had a blood clot then tissue plasminogen activator (tPA) would be indicated to restore blood flow.

Shannon was sent straight back for a CT scan of her head.

"As I was still rolling out of the machine Dr. Porter was there with a resident and two syringes," Shannon remembered. "He said 'you have two clots.' They gave (tPA) to me right then. It was that quick. Everything happened right because my brain was already 50 minutes with no oxygen."

Shannon received tPA within 16 minutes of arrival. National stroke guidelines call for administration within 60 minutes

Thirty minutes later, Shannon started saying words, moving her right thumb and wiggling toes as one clot dissolved.

Another ambulance rushed her to OU Medical Center for a thrombectomy to be performed by Dr. Bradlev

Bohnstedt

The second clot was retrieved within four-and-a-half hours of onset.

Even on a day of so much trauma, Shannon remembers so much detail.

There was Carla's peach scrubs, signature messy bun hairdo and how beautiful she looked.

"I remember his face," Shannon said of Dr. Porter. "He was kind and he did everything he was supposed to do and it worked."

She remembers nurse Lisa at OU Medical Center. There was Barney in ICU, Kate the stroke director and Heather

And then there was Dr. Bohnstedt.

"I remember (in the cath lab) him asking for a No. 8 and getting really frustrated when they couldn't find one," Shannon said. "I remember thinking 'somebody give him the damn No. 8.""

Before the stroke, Shannon was an OR nurse at Norman Regional before starting the Surgical Technology program at Moore Norman Technology Center in the late 1990s.

She tried to go back to work. One month later she experienced a total reactivation of the stroke site.

"When I have too much stress or use my brain too much a portion of my brain shuts down to protect itself," said Shannon, who says she's lost much attention to detail. "It happens when I get sick or during busy times. It's frightening, nonetheless. I'm a little bit afraid that maybe this one will stay or it's another stroke."

"I know I'm probably never going to be 100 percent and I know I'm not going to be able to work as a nurse and I'm OK with that. I've made my peace with that," Shannon continued. "But I'm able to live a full life - a good life - and enjoy my kids and grandkids."

It's outcomes like Shannon's that drive Courtney Stark, RN, who oversees stroke care at Norman Regional's three campuses.

"I think we've done amazing," Stark said of her program. "I've been very impressed. Some of the hats some of the people in our committee wear are multiple. Other facilities they have a community education person, someone who does just their data, a coordinator, a manager - they have so many people that can help run their program.

"I think the fact we have fewer of these, we're smaller and what we're doing just proves we're doing it for the patient. It would be easy to say we don't have the resources."

Shannon is happy.

"It worked perfectly and I hope that it works that way for everybody," she said. "I know things don't always go right - it's the wrong time of day or there's three people in front of you - but it worked for me."



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OU COLLEGE OF NURSING NAMED TOP 20 ONLINE GRADUATE NURSING PROGRAM

The University of Oklahoma Fran and Earl Ziegler College of Nursing has risen into the top 20 rankings as one of the best online graduate nursing programs for 2019 as announced by the U.S. News & World Report. This year, the OU College of Nursing is tied for No. 19 in the rankings, marking its first top 20 achievement. The rankings were released this week.

"The OU College of Nursing was a pioneer when faculty began delivering nursing education online in the 1990s," said Interim Dean Gary Loving, Ph.D., R.N. "That rankings of our online programs continue to rise is a testament to the skill and experience of the faculty who teach in our online programs."

The rankings are determined by how nursing programs perform in five areas: engagement, faculty credentials and training, expert opinion, student excellence, and services and technologies. A separate peer assessment survey was filled out by deans of nursing schools with online graduate programs and top distance-learning officials at those institutions.

The Fran and Earl Ziegler College of Nursing is nationally recognized, offering bachelor's, master's and doctoral level programs to those interested in starting or advancing a career in the profession of nursing. With locations in Oklahoma City, Tulsa and Lawton, the college is the state's largest nursing program and is dedicated to continuing the leadership and academic excellence that have become synonymous with the University of Oklahoma

My Thoughts: Oklahoma needs more registered nurses with bachelor's degrees, not fewer

by Shelly Wells, Ph.D., chairwoman of the Northwestern Oklahoma State University Division of Nursing

The recent Governor's STEM Education Conference brought to light the plight of the state's higher education financial crisis. Among other things, it has been suggested that registered nurses could be adequately prepared through the state's associate degree programs. While there are opportunities for improvement, care must be taken not to cut the throat of Oklahoma's already bleeding health care system.

The largest sector of the health care workforce is made up of registered nurses, and there is a nurses on the health care team in Oklahoma.

The health of Oklahomans is directly impacted by the lack of highly educated registered nurses. The complexity and technological advances in health care call for a well-educated nurse workforce.

The 2018 Commonwealth Fund Score Card on Health System Performance ranks Oklahoma at No. 50 on overall health performance with the 30-day hospital mortality rate and mortality amenable to health care being two of the indicators that worsened pronounced shortage of registered from previous years' rankings.

Published February 4, 2019. Go to www.oknursingtimes.com and click download latest issues / February-04-2019-issue-r to read OR VISIT OUR FACEBOOK PAGE.

FACEBOOK: What you are saying

LOUISA SAYS: Whether you're an ADN or BSN doesn't matter when you sit down to take the NCLEX!! Back when I decided to go to nursing school a major play in my decision was their percentage rate on their students passing the NCLEX the first time. Guess what? The program I chose was an ADN. They beat all the BSN programs in their area.

AMY SAYS: OKlahoma nurses are lowest paid ranking 48 of 50 states.

SHAY SAYS: There is only one hospital that pays a difference from ADN to BSN and that's the VA. I went to Oklahoma panhandle state university and they have tuition waivers. Please look into them. The tuition waivers are for RNs who graduated from a Oklahoma Community college, there is a list of schools. It's called the BSN Connection Scholarship. I just graduated in Dec.

DEBBIE SAYS: Retired after 45 yrs at the bedside, big deciding factor was the 12 hr shift requirement, even the youngsters are exhausted, can you imagine what the future will bring? All I see now is cranky nurses these days, that wasn't the case years ago

ASHLEY SAYS: What's the difference in pay for a RN A.D.N. and a RN B.S.N.? What's the cost for a BSN verse ADN? There you have it. Pay up. Oklahoma needs to PAY their healthcare professionals what they're worth. I'm not saying there aren't A.D.N. RN's out there just as wonderful as BSN R.N.'s, but seriously, if you want the cream of the crop, and if you think BSN is just that, then pay up! Give an incentive for that extra time in school and extra debt.

JONATHAN SAYS: Mickie, I'm an ADN RN, and I've seen some crappy BSN RN's and some LPN's that work circles around them and are better nurses. I know I eventually want to get my BSN just to say I got it, but I don't see the point as no one will get a pay raise anyway. RN's and LPN's and CNA's are underpaid as it is.

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Remembering E.J.

At just 36 years old, E.J., an electrician of Mustang, Oklahoma, suffered a fatal aneurism. When he became an organ donor at the time of his untimely death, he was able to save the lives of five others in need.

Organ, eye and tissue donation saves lives. Please make your decision to donate life and tell your family. Register to be an organ, eye and tissue donor on your Oklahoma driver's license or state ID card or register online at www.LifeShareRegistry.org. You may also call 800-826-LIFE (5433) and request a donor registration card.





CAREERS IN NURSING TREATING WITH DIGNITY, RESPECT - PARCWAY

y Vickie Jenkins - Writer/Photographer

Thanks to our dedicated and caring staff, PARCway Post Acute Recovery Center provides guests with top-notch skilled nursing services, 24 hours a day, seven days a week. With more than 20 licensed therapists, including full-time and on-call nurses and on-site medical professionals, PARCway helps your loved one transition back home, or into an assisted living community. Through their comprehensive and integrated skilled nursing services, they consistently inspire, innovate, and raise the industry standard.

Meet Teresa Adams, LPN. Growing up in Oklahoma City, Teresa has been in the medical field for twenty-five years. She started out as a CNA, Medical Aide, then a Medical Assistant Phlebotomist Instructor and a CPR Instructor and started working at PARCway in July 2018. "I love my job here. This is a great place to work," Teresa commented.

What is your favorite thing about working here? "I like the fact that I can help people. When the patients get here, they are hurting and some are unable to walk. Afterwards, it is nice to see all of the changes that have happened and they always feel much better," Teresa commented. "My biggest challenge with my job is the fact that I cannot spend as much time with each patient the way I would like to. The patients stay here for 10 days up to 100 days, depending on their situation. It is always a lot of work for the patient but the more rehab they do, the quicker they recover," Teresa added.

I asked Teresa to describe herself. "Well, I am very compassionate, loyal and trustworthy. I am a team player and I think that is very important. We've got to all work together. I treat each patient with the dignity and respect that they deserve," she replied.

What qualities do you think

made a good nurse? "Of course, a nurse has to have plenty of compassion and have that desire to care for others. To sum it up, I think a nurse has to have a lot of integrity," Teresa said.

"If I were going to give advice to someone going into the medical field, I would tell them to be a CNA for about a year first, to see if the job is right for them. They need to start from the bottom, learning as they grow, knowing what they want to do with their life. They need to be committed to their job, working as a team player, never giving up," Teresa said. "Also, if you have that one friend that keeps pushing you along, telling you to follow your dream, it helps. I had a classmate that was like that; Jesse Barton. He always encouraged me to keep going, even when I didn't feel like it sometimes. He was always there for me and to this day, we are still friends."

Asking Teresa where she saw herself in five years, she replied, "I plan on going to OSU in the fall to become an RN. After that, I would like to work at Stephenson Cancer Center, downtown OKC. I have a desire to work with cancer patients; it hits close to home since I have a family member going through cancer."

When I asked Teresa if she had received any awards or recognitions, she told me that her biggest reward was when she receives thank-you cards from the patients and their families. I receive lots of cards, snacks and goodies too. That recognition means more to me than anything," she said.

A typical day for Teresa is usually repetitive. "We all meet together to get the updates and reports on the patients. I check on all of the patients throughout the day. All of the nurses are

See ADAMS Page 5





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Teresa Adams, LPN enjoys working at PARCway. "It is nice to see the positive changes in the patients after they have spent time in rehab," Teresa commented.

ADAMS Continued from Page 4

considered charge nurses and each one of us help take care of the patients in the other areas when needed. It's a team effort," Teresa commented.

On a personal note, Teresa enjoys spending time with her husband and their two daughters and two sons, along with her six year old granddaughter and her three year

old grandson. "Life stays busy," she commented. "I enjoy scrapbooking and usually end up doing arts and crafts with my two grandchildren. I like gardening and I love to travel when I get a chance to go for a little vacation," she said.

Teresa's words that she always seems to say to others and words she lives by are: This too shall pass. Spoken like a true nurse! Summing up her life in one word, "Never-ending."

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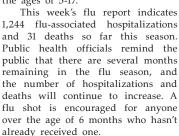
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OSDH and OKC-County Announce First Pediatric Flu Death of the Season

The flu continues to be widespread as the Oklahoma State Department of Health (OSDH) and the OKC-County Health Department (OCCHD) report the first pediatric death associated with the flu since the season began in September. The death occurred in an Oklahoma County resident between the ages of 5-17.



"Young children are among those most at risk for serious illness and death from influenza, so healthy individuals who get a flu shot are helping to protect those who cannot take a flu shot, including infants under the age of 6 months," said OCCHD Executive Director Gary Cox. "Another benefit to getting the flu vaccine is that if you do by chance get the flu, your illness will be much milder than if you had not received a vaccine."

For the current 2018-19 flu season, more than 500 Oklahomans over the age of 65, and more than 200 under the age of 18 have been hospitalized. More than 20 people over the age of 65 have died from flu-related complications.

În effort to reduce the number of hospitalizations and deaths, flu shots continue to be offered at no out-ofpocket cost statewide at all county health department sites.

Cox said the OCCHD has given over 7,000 flu vaccines since the start of the flu season last fall. Statewide, county health departments have given nearly 40,000 doses of flu vaccine.

"It's not too late to get a flu shot," said OSDH Interim Commissioner of



Health Tom Bates. "At the beginning of the flu season, we made a strategic decision to offer the vaccine at no out-of-pocket cost in effort to lessen the financial burden for those in our communities. We still have an adequate supply of vaccine for our county health

departments."

In addition to getting a flu shot, it is important to practice frequent hand washing and prevent the spread of germs by covering your sneeze and cough. Those who are having flu-like symptoms such as fever, cough, sore throat, body aches, fatigue and chills are encouraged to stay home from public gatherings until they are able to go 24 hours without a fever, and without fever-reducing medication.

Those with the flu may develop secondary infections in the days or weeks following initial symptom onset which require additional medical attention. Parents should be aware of children with emergency warning signs of flu including the following:

- Fast breathing or trouble breathingBluish skin color
- •Not drinking enough fluids
- •Not waking up or not interacting
- •Being so irritable that the child does not want to be held
- Flu-like symptoms improve but then return with fever and worse cough Fever with a rash

Parents and caregivers should seek medical help right away for any infant who is unable to eat, has trouble breathing, has no tears when crying, and has significantly fewer wet diapers than normal.

Adults should seek medical attention if they or their child have difficulty breathing or shortness of breath, pain or pressure in the chest or abdomen, sudden dizziness, confusion, severe or persistent vomiting, and flu-like symptoms that improve but then return with fever and a worse cough.



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We are proud to announce that INTEGRIS Canadian Valley Hospital has received prestigious international recognition as a designated Baby-Friendly birth facility. Baby-Friendly USA, Inc is the U.S. authority for the implementation of the Baby-Friendly Hospital Initiative ("BFHI"), a global program sponsored by the World Health Organization (WHO) and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF).

The initiative encourages and recognizes hospitals and birthing centers that offer an optimal level of care for breastfeeding mothers and their babies. Based on the Ten Steps to Successful Breastfeeding,

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INTEGRIS Canadian Valley Hospital is the ninth Baby Friendly USA designated facility in Oklahoma of 49 birthing facilities. There are more than 20,000 designated Baby-Friendly hospitals and birth centers worldwide. Currently there are 558 active Baby-Friendly hospitals and birth centers in the United States.

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Canadian Valley Tech. Center

www.cvtech.org
1. El Reno Campus Ph: 405-422-2341

2. Chickasha Campus Ph: 405-222-7592

Central Technology Center

www.ctechok.org

- 1. Drumright Campus Ph: 918-352-2551 Ext 288
- 2. Sapulpa Campus 918-224-9300

Chisholm Trail Tech. Center www.chisholmtrail.com Ph: 405-729-8324

Francis Tuttle Tech. Center www.francistuttle.com Oklahoma City Ph: 405-717-4382

Gordon Cooper Tech. Center

www.gctech.org

Shawnee Ph: 405-273-7493 Ext 291

Great Plains Technology Center www.gptech.org

1. Lawton Campus Ph: 580-250-5595 2. Frederick Campus Ph: 580-335-5525

Green Country Technology www.gctc.ok.com Okmulgee Ph: 918-758-0840 Ext 246

High Plains Technology Center www.hptc.net Woodward Ph: 580-571-6159

Indian Capital Tech Center

www.icavts.tec.ok.us

- 1. Muskogee Campus Ph: 918-686-7565
- Muskogee Campus Ph. 918-706-7363
 Sallisaw Campus Ph: 918-775-9119 Ext 108
 Stilwell Campus Ph: 918-696-3111
- 4. Tahlequah Campus Ph: 918-456-2594

Kiamichi Technology Center

- www.okktc.org
 1. Antlers Campus Ph: 580-298-6354
- 2. Atoka Campus Ph: 580-889-7321
- 3. Durant Campus Ph: 580-924-7081 4. Hugo Campus Ph: 580-326-6491
- 5. McAlester Campus Ph: 918-426-0940
- 6. Idabel Campus (McCurtain) Ph: 580-286-7555
- 7. Poteau Campus Ph: 918-647-4526 8. Stigler Campus Ph: 918-967-2801
- 9. Talihina Campus Ph: 918-567-2264

Meridian Technology Center www.meridian-technology.com Stillwater, OK 74074

Ph: 405-377-3333 Ext 324

Metro Technology Center www.metrotech.org Oklahoma City Ph: 405-605-4610

Mid-America Technology Center www.matech.org Wayne Ph: 405-449-3391 Ext 265

Mid-Del Lewis Eubanks Technology Center www.mid-del.tec.ok.us Midwest City Ph: 405-739-1713

Moore Norman Technology Center www.mntechnology.com Norman Ph: 405-364-5763 Ext 7349

Northeast Technology Centers

- www.netechcenters.com
 1. Pryor Division Ph: 918-825-5555
 2. Afton Division Ph: 918-257-8324
- 3. Kansas Division Kansas, OK Ph: 918-868-3535
- 4. Claremore Division Ph: 918-342-8066

Northwest Technology Center www.nwtech.edu

Alva Ph: 580-327-0344

Pioneer Technology Center www.pioneertech.org
Ponca City Ph: 580-762-8336 Ext 251

Platt College www.plattcollege.org

- (Conditional Approval) 1. Tulsa Campus Ph: 918-663-9000
- 2. Oklahoma City Campus Ph: 405-946-7799 3. Moore Campus Ph: 405-912-2777
- 4. Lawton Campus Ph: 580-355-4416

Pontotoc Technology Center www.pontotoc.com Ada Ph: 580-310-2258

Red River Technology Center www.redriver.tec.ok.us

Duncan Ph: 580-255-2903 Ext 237

Southern Okla. Tech. Center

www.sotc.org Ardmore Ph: 580-223-2070 Ext 239

Southwest Technology Center

www.swtc.org

Altus Ph: 580-477-2250 Ext 257

Tri County Technology Center

www.tctc.org

Bartlesville Ph: 918-331-3223

Tulsa Tech, HSC www.tulsatech.com Tulsa Ph: 918-828-5000/828-1043

Western Technology Center

www.wtc.tec.ok.us

Burns Flat Ph: 580-562-3181 Ext 2264

Wes Watkins Technology Center

www.wwtech.org Wetumka Ph: 405-452-5500 Ext 277

REGISTERED NURSING PROGRAMS

Carl Albert State College

www.carlalbert.edu

- 1. Poteau Campus Phone: 918-647-1350-1355
- 2. Sallisaw Campus Phone: 918-775-6977

Connors State College

www.connorsstate.edu

Muskogee Campus Phone: 918-684-5436

Eastern Oklahoma State College

www.eosc.edu

1. Wilburton Campus Phone: 918-465-2361

2. Idabel Campus Phone: 580-286-9431 3. McAlester Campus Phone: 918-302-3607

Murray State College www.mscok.edu

1. Tishomingo Campus Phone: 580-371-2371 ext. 337

2. Internet-Based Campus Tishomingo Phone: 580-371-2371 ext. 337

Northeastern OK A&M College

www.neo.edu

Miami Phone: 918-540-6312

- Northern Oklahoma College www.noc.edu 1. Tonkawa Campus Phone: 580-628-6679
- 2. Enid Campus Phone: 580-242-6300
- 3. Stillwater Campus Phone: 405-372-1480

Oklahoma City Community College www.okc.cc.ok.us Oklahoma City Phone: 405-682-7507

Oklahoma State University

www.osuokc.edu Oklahoma City Phone: 405-945-3295

OSU Institute of Technology Okmulgee www.osuit.edu Phone: 918-293-5337

Redlands Community College www.redlandscc.edu El Reno Phone: 405-422-1262

Rogers State University www.rsu.edu

1. Claremore Campus Phone: 918-343-7635

2. Bartlesville Campus Phone: 918-338-8000

Rose State College www.rose.edu

1. Midwest City Campus Phone: 405-733-7546

2. Internet-Based Campus Midwest City

Phone: 405-733-7546

Seminole State College www.ssc.cc.ok.us

Phone: 405-382-9205

Tulsa Community College www.tulsacc.edu

1. Tulsa Campus Phone: 918-595-7188 2. Owasso Campus Satellite Site Phone: 580-595-7188

Western Oklahoma State College

www.wosc.edu

- 1. Altus Campus Phone: 580-477-7830 2. Lawton Campus Phone: 580-477-7830 3. Elk City Campus Phone: 580-477-7830
- 4. Internet-Based Campus Altus Phone:
- 580-477-7830

BACCALAUREATE DEGREE PROGRAMS

East Central University www.ecok.edu 1. Ada Campus Ph: 580-332-8000 Ext

- 433/434
- 2. Durant Campus Ph: 580-924-0121 3. Ardmore Campus Ph: 580-223-1441

Langston University www.lunet.edu

- 1. Langston Campus Ph: 405-466-3411
- 2. Tulsa Campus Ph: 918-594-8070

Northwestern OK State Univ. www.nwosu.edu

- 1. Alva Campus Ph: 580-327-8489
- 2. Enid Campus Ph: 580-233-3101
- 3. Woodward Campus Ph: 580-327-8489 4. Ponca City Campus Ph: 580-718-5600

Oklahoma Baptist University www.okbu.edu

Shawnee Ph: 405-878-2081

Oklahoma Christian University www.oc.edu

Oklahoma City Ph: 405-425-5000

Oklahoma City University Kramer School of Nursing

www.okcu.edu 1. Oklahoma City Campus Ph: 405-208-5900

2. Duncan Campus Ph: 405-208-5900

Oklahoma Wesleyan University www.okwu.edu

Bartlesville Ph: 918-335-6276

Oral Roberts University www.oru.edu Tulsa Ph: 918-495-6198

Rogers State University www.rsu.edu
1. Claremore Campus Phone: 918-343-7635
2. Bartlesville Campus Phone: 918-338-8000

Southern Nazarene University

www.snu.edu Bethany Ph: 405-491-6610

Southwestern OK State Univ. www.swosu.edu

Weatherford Ph: 580-774-3261

University of Central Oklahoma www.uco.edu Edmond Ph: 405-974-5000

University of Oklahoma www.ouhsc.edu

- 1. Oklahoma City Campus Ph: 405-271-2428
- Tulsa Campus Ph: 918-660-3950 Lawton Campus Ph: 580-591-8094

The University of Tulsa www.cab.utulsa.edu

Ph: 918-631-2619 The following programs admit only Registered Nurses to Upper Division Courses and Grant a Baccalaureate

Degree in Nursing. Information on these programs is provided here as a service to the public; however, approval by the Oklahoma Board of Nursing is not required for RN-BSN programs. Please check with the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN) or the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) for information on the accreditation status of the programs.

Bacone College www.bacone.edu Muskogee

Northeastern State Univ. www.nsuok.edu

Oklahoma Panhandle Univ. www.opsu.edu Goodwell Ph: 580-349-2611 Ext 269

Oklahoma State University www.okstate.edu Stillwater, OK

Muskogee Ph: 918-781-5410

Ph: 918-781-7325

Ph: 405-744-1998

- University of Phoenix www.phoenix.edu 1. Tulsa Campus Ph: 918-622-4981
- 2. Oklahoma City Campus Ph: 888-888-8166
- 3. Norman Campus Ph: 405-842-8007

Special to the Nursing Times

Something to Ponder

Most of us have either heard or read about the Vanderbilt Nurse who was charged with homicide in the death of her patient from an accidental overdose in 2017. True, there were factors in this case that should not have happened, i.e., why was Vercuronium available in a radiology area, and for that matter, why was it allowed to be overridden in the medication dispensing cabinet? However, I or you weren't walking in her shoes, and this is not up to us to draw up any conclusions, it is now in the hands of the Tennessee court system to make that conclusion.



Angela Archer, BSN

This case has rattled us as a profession. It should wake everyone up, from the top administrators to the nurse at the bedside. Will this case set a precedent for other accidental deaths in hospitals or those patients in our care? Nurses and healthcare providers have patient safety as a number one goal. We do the best we can with the resources we are given or are provided, yet, we are humans, and humans make mistakes. Unfortunately, the patient paid the ultimate price with his life from a mistake, and a nurse also has had her life and career ultimately changed and damaged.

Who is to blame? The nurse, the institution? The doctor? The justice system? Everyone? I was reading an article by Dr. Phillip Boysen on "Just Culture". In his article Dr. Boysen states "Punishing people without changing the system only perpetuates the problem rather than solving it"(Boysen, 2013).

Are we at risk for being arrested as criminals when a patient receives pain medicine on a long term basis, becomes addicted, then files a lawsuit against the facility, physician and or the nurse for giving the pain medicine in the first place. Yes, I know, this is not the same as a patient death, but you get the idea. Will the authorities go around arresting medical and nursing personnel for "reckless endangerment", of contributing to a patient's addiction to pain medications?

I believe there are more questions than answers in this case. This has shaken the core of nurses and nursing all around the U.S. Most nurses I have spoken to, and about this unfortunate case are sympathetic with the nurse. A few are not. I believe it is not our job to judge, our job is to make our profession a better, safer place for all.

Angela Archer has been a nurse for over 28 years and graduated in 1990 from TJC, now known as TCC in Tulsa Oklahoma. She has worked in the Medical-Surgical Float Pool at St. Francis Hospital in Tulsa recently returning to school and fulfilling her goal of completing a BSN. She is also planning to continue her education in a Master's program in Nursing Informatics.

CONTINUED ED EVENT

CANNACIAN LEVEL ONE & TWO CERTIFICATE TRAINING

All courses now include a free handbook. Date: March 8th CANNACIAN LEVEL ONE CERTIFICATION 10AM - 2PM

An essential educational class for Cannabis Industry Professionals, Caregivers and Patients. The four courses include: Time for Talk, Intro to the Endocannabinoid System, Hemp v Cannabis, Targeted Dosing. Classes are CME accredited for Medical Professionals.

CANNACIAN LEVEL TWO CERTIFICATION 3PM - 7:15 PM *SNACKS INCLUDED

The next Educated-Step-Up for Cannabis Professionals and Caregivers. The four courses include: An in-depth look at the eCS, Cannabis Therapy Planning, Pediatric Cannabis Use, Veterinary Cannabis Use. Classes are CME and CE accredited for Medical and Veterinary Professionals.

Doors Open to the Public 9:45 AM to 7:45 PM

OSU-OKC 900 N Portland Ave. Oklahoma City, Ok 73107. Tickets can be purchased at www.brownpapertickets.com . search ecs therapy.



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

I am the parent of two teenagers who have been encouraged by their social studies teacher to learn about the election process. I think this is a great idea but as I have been watching the debates, news shows and what is posted on social media, I was also acutely aware of how much I didn't want them to watch and listen to the negative education they were receiving. Here is what I want to share.

WHAT I WANT MY CHILDREN NOT TO VIEW AS ACCEPTABLE:

- 1. People do not have to trash talk each other. Educated adults do not need to seek media attention based on the nasty statements they make about one another.
 - 2. Lying is not a positive character trait.
 - 3. Blaming is a sign of insecurity.
- 4. Giving false hope is mean. (anyone tired of the same old rhetoric, "we are going to create jobs, repeal Obama care, strengthen the middle class, etc, etc.)
- 4a. We have to remember the people talking about the middle class are not the middle class. Is any one of these people paying \$900.00 for their health care premium? Does any one of them wait to buy a new vacuum cleaner until it goes on sale? Do they fear loss of their job because the government might shut down and relocate to Mexico?

whew.....sorry about that! Back to my list.

- 5. Rationalizing and minimizing bad behavior is very ugly. If you said it, admit it.
 - 6. Bullying is shameful.
- 7. If you are going to run for office, know what you are talking about. Talk smart.

We cannot let the behavior of politicians determine what our norms should be, nor should we emulate bad behavior or make lies our truth. We CANNOT become desensitized to irresponsible, inappropriate behavior and call it "the new norm."

A quote that says it all: THE FURTHER A SOCIETY DRIFTS FROM TRUTH THE MORE IT WILL HATE THOSE WHO SPEAK IT. - George Orwell

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NURSE



It makes a difference in the lives of all our patients.



Tami Inman, RN

Every patient that comes through our doors deserves the same level of care and in quality you have a better ability to achieve those results



Emily Coppock, RN

Why do you do what you do?

INTEGRIS

Integris
Southwest
Medical Center
Quality/Infection
Control

I love taking care of patients whether its bedside or on the backside from a quality perspective.



Michelle Stilwell, RN

Easy, I would like to make a difference helping people and impacting care for others. I have a passion for people.



Ashley Santoro, RN

Holistic Nurses

39th Annual Conference Coming to Tulsa

June 2 - 7, 2019
Earn up to 41 Contact Hours





One Day Registration Rates

AHNA Member \$285 Student AHNA Member \$235 Senior AHNA Member \$235 Non-Member \$320 Student Non-Member \$285 Senior Non-Member \$285

For more information, call (785) 234-1712 or email conference@ahna.org

www.AHNA.org/AnnualConference



Doing what's right isn't always what's easiest.

But as part of the United Way of Central Oklahoma,
you're not afraid of these questions.
You're part of the answer. Raise your hand and
stand with us. Give today at

StandUnitedOKC.com

