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Dynamic nursing



photo by James Coburn

AllianceHealth Deaconess understands the value of life. Chief Nursing Officer Linda Fanning, RN, understands the value a hospital can bring to provide exceptional care.

Chief Nursing Officer shares her love of humanity

by James Coburn
Staff Writer

In every aspect of Linda

Fanning's life, in every patient that she sees as the chief nursing officer

at AllianceHealth Deaconess, Fanning knows the value of a family member.

"I think of that patient as my mother, brother or sister," said Fanning, who has been CNO at Deaconess for nearly six months.

They are seen as a son, grandchild, husband or daughter-in-law.

"I'm from a very large family and

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See FANNING Page 3

Stepping Stones

The ARC guides women to achieve a new meaning in life



Jenni Aguilar, manager of marketing and communication - left; along with ARC Vice President Amy Woolery and Nursing Supervisor Jody Hill, RN, are part of a rehabilitative team dedicated to the recovery of addiction.

by James Coburn, Staff Writer

The Addiction Recovery Center (The ARC) is like a vessel that carries people through troubled waters. It serves the community by providing withdrawal management from chemical dependency for women, said Amy Woolery, vice president.

Located in midtown Oklahoma City, the ARC opened in February with nine beds offering a home feel to its guests.

Located at the Valir Rehabilitation Hospital, The ARC distinguishes itself from Valir as a separate brand. Valir focuses on physical rehabilitation, but both entities are bound by the same corporate umbrella.

The ARC's Intensive Outpatient Program is gender specific,

See ARC Page 2

"Life-goals are identified based on the guest's passions and interests and The ARC team is committed to implementing a plan of action to help you achieve your goals."

The free event features eight presentations, holistic practitioners, wellness products and services, educational information and alternative/complementary therapies. Hours are 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, July 16, and noon to 6 p.m. Sunday, July 17. For additional information, contact (405) 943-2741 or wisdom110@hotmail.com.

FANNING

Continued from Page 1

there's a lot of health history there," Fanning said. "I don't just see them as a patient in a bed, a number or somebody from another state. I think about the compassion I'd want my family to feel."

There is a love and tenderness she takes home when leaving Deaconess at day's end. She wants to enrich the quality of somebody's life.

"If you don't have that, you don't need to be a nurse," she said.

Fanning has studied the life of Florence Nightingale and the prescriptions that Nightingale used in her daily life when caring for patients long ago. Every bit of Nightingale's compassion applies to nursing today, Fanning added.

She often wonders what Nightingale would think if she walked the halls of Deaconess, would she be proud that the Deaconess nurses strive altruistically to better their profession.

"I take a lot of pride in being a nurse," she said. "And I want the nurses that I work with to be the same way. I don't have a lot of tolerance for people that don't want to be compassionate."

She empathizes with the experience

of patients and their family members. During the past two years of her life, Fanning has had many family members in the hospital. She experienced the death of her father and the birth of a premature granddaughter.

"I have had that full spectrum of being on the other side," Fanning said. "I've been on the other side with a premature granddaughter who spent time in the NICU, to my father who passed away while on hospice care. As chief nursing officer, Fanning is motivated to advocate for the patients while wanting the nursing staff to have the passion the need for a caring profession. Nurses at Deaconess are empowered by their leadership team to excel.

"Nurses don't have to have an order to get patients out of bed, to give compassionate care or to maintain proper infection prevention standards."

"Treat them with respect or to take care of infection control," Fanning continued. "There are things you can always do as a nurse that don't always require a physician's order. And that comes from the heart."

Fanning's inspiration for a nursing career was sparked as a child living with asthma. The nurses who cared for her were gentle and kind. Her

young curiosity was intellectual, so she would study the care she received. They were part of a collaborative team.

She carries the values that were instilled in her character during her youth as she moves forward as CNO at AllianceHealth Deaconess.

AllianceHealth Deaconess is part of 10 hospitals belonging to the Alliance Health Oklahoma Network that spreads all across the state of Oklahoma.

Fanning also knows the value of an active personal life. She just returned from a vacation to the Rocky Mountains in Colorado.

"I love it. We went hiking," she said. "I love to go to Boston; I have another son that lives there. My husband and I like to travel. We've been to Europe and Alaska. But sometimes I just like staycations just to stay home and swim and love my dogs."

Fanning does not have a shortage of things to do in life.

"Deaconess is like the best-kept secret in town," she said. "There's just a lot of opportunity here that I can't wait to be a part of. We have a great team of professionals working here."

Fanning also is mindful to take care of her own well being.

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CAREERS IN NURSING

LPN FINDS SECOND FAMILY: TUTTLE CARE CENTER

by Bobby Anderson - Writer/Photographer

Having a father with multiple health problems taught Carla Files, LPN, a lot of things.

She saw first-hand what multiple disease processes can do to an individual. She saw the toll it can take on a family.

But ultimately, through it all, she found her calling in life.

"He had a lot of health problems," Files said unfolding the story of her father's health issues. "At times we would do wound vacs at the house and IVs."

Files learned how to start an IV even before she set foot in a nursing classroom.

By the time she even cracked her first textbook she had already had a crash course in nursing.

Files nursed her father through diabetes, a kidney transplant, open heart surgery and home dialysis.

It was through this process that Files decided she wanted to go into nursing.

Files received her nursing

training at Platt College.

Tuttle Care Center is home to around 30 residents. It's the only place Files has ever worked as a nurse.

Before nursing, she worked in a variety of jobs but never found that fulfillment she was looking for.

"I'm a late bloomer," said Files, who entered nursing school at 40.

Entering nursing school, she found herself in a classroom with a lot of young girls. She never batted an eye.

"I graduated at the top of my class," she said. "A lot of people I went to school with asked me to help them out. I caught on real fast. I had my family's support and that's one thing you have to have. If you don't have it you're not going to make it, especially if you have kids."

On a whim, Files came into Tuttle Care Center one day and asked if they were hiring. The center was and she was encouraged

to fill out an application.

Her interview was scheduled and she was hired on the spot by the director of nursing.

The Tuttle native embarked on 12-hour shifts for the first time and was trained by two different nurses over the course of two weeks.

She immediately went to nights and although she initially struggled, she settled into her new schedule. She even went to days and then came back to nights because she missed it so much.

One of the best parts is she lives only 10 blocks away.

"I like it. I really do. It just takes me a minute to get here and I don't have to fight traffic," she said with a smile.

Files grew up a Tuttle Tiger. She's lived in the community since she was 11. She adores her role.

"I get to meet new people for one thing. I get to help them and I get to teach them," she said. "I get to meet their families and get to

teach them about the diagnosis and treatments."

With barely 6,000 residents, Files is bound to run into patients' family members. Working nights, she's insulated to a point.

"We don't have very many visitors (in the middle of the night)," she said with a laugh. "On nights, I'm the main boss. There's no one overlooking me. I enjoy that position."

That autonomy is another one of the perks she enjoys while working with a pair of CNAs at night.

Files is also participating in a unique study focused on aging.

Tuttle Care Center is one of four nursing homes in the state involved in a 12-week evidence-based fall prevention study organized by the Fran and Earl Ziegler OU College of Nursing.

The study, entitled It's Not OK to Fall, is led by Diana L. Studevant, PhD, GCNS-BC, APRN and Teri Round, BSN, MS, RN, BC-NE.

Nurses, let your voices be heard at the Capitol this Legislative Session!



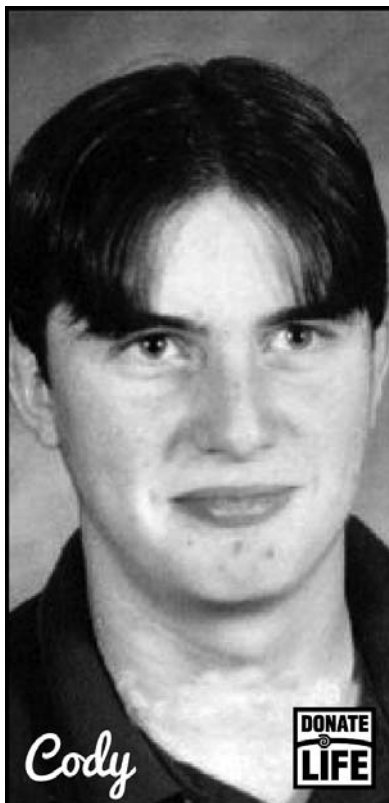
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Cody was a thoughtful and kind young man. When he applied for his driver's license, he and his mother talked about the significance of being an organ donor. He knew the importance of donation because a donated kidney saved the life of his grandmother 20 years earlier. Because of this, the decision for Cody to be an organ donor was easy. Five months later, Cody died in a car accident and became a hero to many.

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.



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Nursing is at the forefront of the study, which seeks to implement new ways to keep residents from falling.

It's a proactive approach to falls prevention that center Administrator Lisa Childree feels could make a tremendous impact on nursing in our state.

Working her father prepared Files for nursing in ways she never could have imagined.

Files' father was diagnosed as diabetic at 37. She said he attended classes but never took care of himself like he should.

He passed away while Files was in nursing school.

"He had been sick so long. I'm

just glad he's not suffering," she said.

Now she's part of a staff that makes sure residents receive the care they need on a daily basis.

"The staff here is great," she said. "They give 110 percent taking care of these residents. It's family."

And Files has been taking care of family way longer than the 10 years she's been in nursing.



St. Gregory's receives CCNE accreditation for nursing degree



St. Gregory's University announced today that its Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) degree program has been granted full accreditation from the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE). The accreditation is retroactive to October 15, 2015.

"Going through the development and implementation of a nursing program at St. Gregory's is a great illustration of The Little Engine That Could. The faculty and staff have worked tirelessly to make the accreditation process a successful reality," Dr. Susan Barnes, Dean of St. Gregory's School of Nursing said. "This accreditation is a testimony to the good people that are so dedicated and passionate about nursing. This hard work is an acknowledgement of the nursing shortage and our ability to make a contribution to solving the problem. Nurses play an important role in each of our lives."

St. Anthony Hospital, Saint Francis Health System, St. John Medical Center and Mercy Hospital — Oklahoma's

four Catholic healthcare systems — are key partners in St. Gregory's nursing program, supporting a caring approach that preserves the dignity of the human person. The curriculum's ethical component is informed by the Catholic Church's moral teaching, and supports the University's overall mission of forming the whole person - mind, body and spirit.

The success of the nursing program has spurred the University to explore the possibility of opening a College of Health Care as part of its recently approved strategic plan, Vision for Our Next Century.

"This is a marquee day for not only our School of Nursing, but also for St. Gregory's University," Michael A. Scaperlanda, President of St. Gregory's, said. "Our nursing program's roots within the Catholic Liberal Arts intellectual tradition prepares our students to go out into the world and become beacons of light within their communities while serving others in

See DEGREE Page 8

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Oklahoma's NURSING TIMES Index to Classifieds

- 1 0 0 Ambulatory
- 1 0 8 Administrative
- 1 1 3 Case Management
- 1 1 5 Chemical Dependency
- 1 1 8 Clinical Instructors
- 1 1 9 Collection
- 1 2 1 Critical Care
- 1 2 3 Certified Medical Assistant
- 1 2 4 Certified Nurses Aide
- 1 2 7 CRNA
- 1 2 9 Dental
- 1 3 0 Dialysis
- 1 3 1 Dietary
- 1 3 7 Education
- 1 4 0 General Nursing
- 1 4 3 Geriatrics and Long Term Care
- 1 4 6 HMO
- 1 4 9 Home Health
- 1 5 2 Hospice
- 1 5 4 Housekeeping
- 1 5 5 Infection Control
- 1 5 6 Instructor
- 1 5 8 IV Therapy
- 1 6 1 Licensed Practical Nurse
- 1 6 4 Managerial
- 1 6 5 Massage Therapy
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- 1 7 3 OB/Gyn
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Oklahoma's NURSING TIMES

DEGREE

Continued from Page 5

a way that respects the dignity of human life. This is only our first step as we continue to look for ways the University can serve the vast Catholic health care network in Oklahoma and across the nation."

The nursing program has previously been approved by the Higher Learning Commission, received provisional approval from the Oklahoma State Board of Nursing and has been offering nursing courses

in a traditional format as well as the accelerated Registered Nurse to Bachelor of Science in Nursing (RN to BSN) degree completion program for working adults since August 2014. Currently there are over 75 students enrolled in both the traditional nursing and RN to BSN Degree programs. For more information on St. Gregory's Catholic Nursing or RN to BSN program, contact the St. Gregory's admissions office at admissions@stgregorys.edu, 1-844-BE EXTRA or visit www.stgregorys.edu/nursing.

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OMRF welcomes 2016 class of Fleming Scholars



Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation's 2016 Fleming Scholars: Front row (left to right): Annelise Poss, Nicole Biddinger and Michael Harmon. Middle row (left to right): Caroline Say, Lindsey Purcell, Emily Wilkie, Joey Maher and Ariel Thorson. Back row (left to right): Evan McKinnis, Zane Dennis, Andrew Blattler, Dat Truong and Uday Kohli.

This week, OMRF welcomed its 61st class of Sir Alexander Fleming Scholars. The students, all graduates of Oklahoma high schools, were chosen from a pool of statewide applicants and will spend their summers working in OMRF laboratories with senior medical researchers on in-depth, individual research projects.

At the end of the summer, the students will write scientific papers and present their research results in formal seminars for OMRF's scientific staff.

The program is named for Sir Alexander Fleming, the famed Nobel Prize-winning scientist who discovered penicillin and in 1949 dedicated OMRF's first building. The program bearing his name was founded in 1956 to provide Oklahoma's brightest high school and college students with hands-on experience in the lab.

"A summer at OMRF provides an experience unlike anything these students have had before," said

OMRF Fleming Scholar program coordinator Carlisa Curry. "This program provides a unique opportunity to work alongside some of the most respected scientists in their fields in the world, and it can kick-start their educational journey. They also infuse our labs with curiosity and a passion for knowledge that emanates energy throughout the foundation. It's a truly special experience for all involved."

Since the program began, more than 500 Oklahoma students have had their first taste of hands-on research under the guidance of OMRF scientists. Many have gone on to careers in medicine and research, including OMRF program heads Rodger McEver, M.D., and Judith James, M.D., Ph.D.

"Many of these students are already interested in careers in the laboratory, and this program provides a close-up look at what

See OMRF page 9

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Autumn Light Hospice: 580-252-1266

Carter Healthcare & Hospice: OKC - OKC
Pat McGowen, Vol. Coordinator, 405-947-7705, ext.
134; Tulsa - Samantha Estes, Vol. Coordinator,
918-425-4000

Centennial Hospice: Becky Johnson,
Bereavement Coordinator 405-562-1211

Choice Home Health & Hospice:
405-879-3470

Comforting Hands Hospice: Bartlesville:
918-331-0003

Companion Hospice:
Steve Hickey, Vol. Coordinator, Guthrie:
405-282-3980; Edmond: 405-341-9751

Compassionate Care Hospice: Amy Legare,
Bereavement/Vol. Coordinator, 405-948-4357

Cornerstone Hospice: Vicky Herrington, Vol.
Coordinator, 918-641-5192

Crossroads Hospice: Elizabeth Horn, Vol.
Coordinator, 405-632-9631

Cross Timbers Hospice: Ardmore-
800-498-0655 Davis-580-369-5335 Volunteer
Coordinator-Shelly Murray

Excell Hospice: Toni K. Cameron, Vol.
Coordinator 405-631-0521

Faith Hospice of OKC: Charlene Kilgore, Vol.
Coordinator, 405-840-8915

Frontier Hospice: Kelly Morris, Vol.
Coordinator, 405-789-2913

Golden Age Hospice: 405-735-5121

Good Shepherd Hospice: 4350 Will Rogers
Parkway Suite 400 OKC OK 73108 405-943-0903

Grace Hospice Foundation: Sharon Doty, Dir
of Spec. Projects - Tulsa 918-744-7223

Harbor Light Hospice: Randy Pratt, Vol.
Coordinator, 1009 N Meridian, Oklahoma City, OK
73107 405-949-1200

Horizon Hospice: LaDonna Rhodes, Vol.
Coordinator, 918-473-0505

Heartland Hospice: Shawnee: Vol. Coord. Karen
Cleveland, 405-214-6442; Norman: Vol. Coord. Lisa
Veauchamp, 405-579-8565

Heavenly Hospice: Julie Myers, Coordinator
405-701-2536

Hope Hospice: Bartlesville: 918-333-7700,
Claremore: 918-343-0777 Owasso: 918-272-3060

Hospice by Loving Care: Connie McDivitt,
Vol. Coordinator, 405-872-1515

Hospice of Green Country: Tulsa:
918-747-2273, Claremore: 918-342-1222, Sapulpa:
918-224-7403

**INTEGRIS Hospice, Inc. & the INTEGRIS
Hospice House:** Ruth Ann Frick, Vol.
Coordinator, 405-848-8884

Hospice of Owasso, Inc.: Todd A. Robertson,
Dir. of Marketing, 877-274-0333

Humanity Hospice:
Kay Cole, Vol. Coordinator 405-418-2530

InFinity Care of Tulsa: Spencer Brazeal, Vol.
Director, 918-392-0800

Indian Territory Home Health & Hospice:
1-866-279-3975

Interim Healthcare Hospice: 405-848-3555

Image HealthCare : 6116 S. Memorial Tulsa,
Ok. 74133 (918) 622-4799

LifeChoice Hospice: Christy Coppenbarger,
RN, Executive Director. 405-842-0171

LifeSpring In-Home Care Network: Terry
Boston, Volunteer and Bereavement Coordinator
405-801-3768

LifeLine Hospice: April Moon, RN Clinical
Coordinator 405-222-2051

Mercy Hospice: Sandy Schuler, Vol.
Coordinator, 405-486-8600

Mission Hospice L.L.C.: 2525 NW Expressway,
Ste. 312 OKC, OK 73112 405-848-3779

Oklahoma Hospice Care: 405-418-2659
Jennifer Forrester, Community Relations Director

One Health Home Health in Tulsa:
918-412-7200

Palliative Hospice: Janet Lowder, Seminole, &
Sabrina Johnson, Durant, 800-648-1655

Physician's Choice Hospice: Tim Clausing,
Vol. Coordinator 405-936-9433

Professional Home Hospice: Sallisaw:
877-418-1815; Muskogee: 866-683-9400; Poteau:
888-647-1378

PromiseCare Hospice: Angela Shelton, LPN -
Hospice Coordinator, Lawton: (580) 248-1405

Quality Life Hospice: 405 486-1357

RoseRock Healthcare: Audrey McCraw,
Admin. 918-236-4866

Ross Health Care: Glenn LeBlanc, Norman,
Chickasha; April Burrows, Enid; Vol. Coordinators,
580-213-3333

Russell Murray Hospice: Tambi Urias,
Vol. Coordinator, 405-262-3088; Kingfisher
405-375-5015; Weatherford-580-774-2661

Seasons Hospice: Carolyn Miller, Vol. /
Bereavement Coordinator, 918-745-0222

Sequoyah Memorial Hospice:
Vernon Stone, D. Min. Chaplin, Vol. Coordinator,
918-774-1171

Sooner Hospice, LLC:
Matt Ottis, Vol. Coordinator, 405-608-0555

Prescription Drug Abuse Threatens Lives of Oklahomans

It is no secret that prescription drug abuse is Oklahoma's largest drug problem, taking a toll on too many Oklahomans and their families. Of the more than 5,300 unintentional poisoning deaths in Oklahoma from 2007 to 2014, about 80 percent involved at least one prescription drug and nearly 90 percent of those deaths involved prescription painkillers (opioids).

In recent years, the numbers of unintentional poisoning deaths have surpassed deaths from motor vehicle crashes. More unintentional poisoning deaths involve hydrocodone or oxycodone, both prescription painkillers, than alcohol and all illicit drugs combined. Adults ages 35-54 years have the highest death rate of any age group for prescription overdoses.

The Oklahoma State Department of Health (OSDH) offers the following suggestions for preventing prescription drug overdoses:

- Tell your healthcare provider about all medications and supplements you are taking. Opioids, in combination with other depressants such as sleep aids, anti-anxiety medications, or cold medicine, can be dangerous.
- Only take medications as prescribed and never more than the recommended dosage. Use special caution with opioid painkillers.
- Never share or sell prescription drugs.
- Dispose of unused, unneeded, or expired prescription drugs at approved drug disposal sites.
- Call 211 for help finding treatment referrals.

Keep all pain medications in a secure place to avoid theft and access to children.

- Keep medicines in their original bottles or containers.
- Never drink alcohol while taking medication.
- Put the Poison Control number, 1-800-222-1222, on or near every home telephone and cell phone for 24/7 access.

If you suspect someone is experiencing an overdose, call 911 immediately.

For more information on prescription drug overdose prevention, contact the OSDH Injury Prevention Service at (405) 271-3430 or visit <http://poison.health.ok.gov>. For help finding treatment referrals, call 211. To report illegal distribution or diversion of prescription drugs, call the Oklahoma Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs Control at 1-800-522-8031.

OMRF

Continued from Page 8

that's really like," said Curry. "This experience can tell them early on if they enjoy it and have an aptitude for it. It really helps send them down a path to future success."

The 2016 Fleming Scholars are:

Nicole Biddinger, Bartlesville, Purdue University

Andrew Blattler, Oklahoma City, Mount St. Mary

Zane Dennis, Tulsa, Baylor University

Michael Harmon, Enid, Chisholm High School

Uday Kohli, Edmond, University of

Oklahoma

Joey Maher, Yukon, Harding Charter Preparatory High School

Evan McKinnis, Oklahoma City, Classen School of Advanced Studies
Lindsey Purcell, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma State University

Annelise Poss, Tulsa, Oklahoma State University

Caroline Say, Oklahoma City, University of Wisconsin-Madison

Dat Truong, Oklahoma City, University of Oklahoma

Emily Wilkie, Oklahoma City, Classen School of Advanced Studies

Ariel Thorson, Oklahoma City, Bethany High School

The Hospice Directory above does not represent a list of all Hospice facilities statewide. For a complete list visit www.ok.gov/health



**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*

LET'S GET OFF THE STRESS CRAZY TRAIN

Stress has become normalized and as a result so has illness and disease. When going to the doctor and taking more and more pills becomes the prescription of choice our body and mind are going to rebel AND rebel loudly.

Cortisol is a stress hormone. In it's normal function, cortisol helps us meet life's challenges by converting proteins into energy, releasing glycogen and counteracting inflammation. For a short time, that's okay. But as sustained high levels, cortisol gradually tears your body down. Cortisol is one essential we can't live without. But too much of a good thing is not healthy.

10 Signs You Have Way Too Much Cortisol:

1. You experience backaches and headaches.

When your cortisol levels are high over a long period of time, your adrenal glands start to get depleted. This raises prolactin levels, increasing the body's sensitivity to pain, such as backaches and muscle aches. 2. You're not sleeping well.

Cortisol levels are supposed to drop at nighttime, allowing your body to relax and recharge. But if your cortisol levels are too high, you might notice that, even if you've been tired all day, you get a second wind around bedtime. 3. Even when you sleep well, you're still tired.

Over time, high levels of cortisol deplete the adrenal glands and predispose you to chronic fatigue. 4. You are gaining weight, especially around your abdomen, even when you eat well and exercise.

Cortisol tends to make you which around the middle, even when you're doing everything "right." 5. You catch colds and other infections easily.

Cortisol deactivates your body's natural self-repair mechanisms, which means that your immune system, perfectly designed by nature to keep you healthy, goes kaput, leaving you vulnerable to every germ you encounter. 6. You crave unhealthy foods. Cortisol raises your blood sugar, putting you at risk of diabetes. High glucose levels then bump up your insulin levels, which then drop your blood sugar, and all of a sudden, you're struck with wild cravings for Twinkies. 7. Your sex life is a thing of the past. Consider cortisol the anti-Viagra. When stress hormones are high, libido-inducing hormones like testosterone drop. 8. Your gut acts up. Your gastrointestinal system is very sensitive to stress hormones like cortisol. You might experience nausea, heartburn, abdominal cramps, diarrhea or constipation. 9. You feel anxious. Cortisol and epinephrine can lead to jitters, feelings of panic, even paranoia. 10. You feel blue.

High levels of cortisol suppress production of serotonin, and next thing you know, you're awash in doom and gloom.

SSM Health President and CEO William P. Thompson Announces Intent to Retire in 2017

SSM Health President/CEO William P. Thompson has announced his intention to retire next year, after more than 36 years with the health care system. In Oklahoma, St. Anthony Hospital, Bone and Joint Hospital at St. Anthony, St. Anthony Shawnee Hospital, and St. Anthony Physicians Group are included as members of SSM Health. The SSM Health board of directors will engage a search firm to conduct a national search for Thompson's successor.

In order to ensure a smooth transition, Thompson will remain in his role until a successor is in place.

"It has been an honor and a privilege to lead one of the largest and most respected Mission-based health care systems in the country and serve alongside so many talented, compassionate and dedicated individuals," said Thompson. "This was not an easy decision. However, after much reflection and deliberation, I feel it is time to begin transitioning to the next chapter in my life."

Thompson became President/CEO of SSM Health in 2011. He previously served in a number of other executive leadership roles at SSM Health, including Chief Operating Officer and Senior Vice President of Strategic Development.

Under Thompson's visionary leadership, physicians were given a voice on the health system's board of directors and on the senior leadership team. SSM Health also consolidated its system structure to move toward a value-based model of care delivery and experienced unprecedented growth, including the acquisitions of:

- Dean Health System in Wisconsin (which included 60 clinics, a large multi-specialty physician group, a pharmacy benefit management company, and a health plan),

- St. Anthony Shawnee Hospital and St. Anthony Shawnee Physicians

group in Oklahoma,

- SSM Health St. Mary's Hospital - Audrain, along with 9 rural clinics, and the Audrain County Health Department's Home Health and Hospice Division,

- And SSM Health Saint Louis University Hospital (SSM Health's first adult academic medical center), which gave SSM Health the opportunity to help train future clinicians in partnership with Saint Louis University School of Medicine.

This growth strategy has helped SSM Health to become one of the largest integrated health care systems in the nation and double its revenue to reach nearly \$6 billion, while also improving the patient experience and providing better care coordination.

"Bill has dedicated more than half of his life to the Mission and ministry of SSM Health and we are grateful for his service," said David Cosby, chair of the SSM Health system board. "His legacy of leadership and commitment to excellence have had a profound and lasting impact on this organization."

Thompson is known for his advocacy on behalf of patients, having been an avid champion of continuous quality improvement and safety for most of his career. In 2003, SSM Health became the first health care organization in the country to win the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award.

Over the past 5 years alone, SSM Health has earned numerous awards for safety and quality, including the Joint Commission's Top Performing Hospitals recognition, the Premier QUEST High Performing Hospitals Award and the U.S. News & World Report's Best Children's Hospital. The health system has also been recognized by the American Hospital Association as one of 'HealthCare's Most Wired' and is a national leader for the depth of its electronic health record integration.



NURSE + TALK

Read what other health care professionals have to say...

What is your idea of the ideal vacation? Alliance Health Deaconess

"A resort and just my family and good food."



Monica Perkins, RN

"On a beach with sailing and kayaking and lots of food."



Aimee Giuliano, RN

Each week we visit with health care professionals throughout the Metro



Please Let us know Your Thoughts

Email:
news@okcnursingtimes.com
or mail to
Oklahoma's Nursing Times
P.O. Box 239
Mustang, Ok. 73064

"Probably overseas somewhere. I was born in Scotland so I want to go back."



Rachel Jones, RN

"Probably a cruise with my family, husband and kids."



Miranda Claypool, RN

Oklahoma City

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RETHINK

aging

KEYNOTE PRESENTERS

Susan Perlstein, MSW
*Founder Emeritus for the National Center for Creative Aging in Washington, DC,
Founder of Elders Share the Arts in New York City*

Laura A. Robbins, MS, MBA
*Laura A. Robbins Consulting, LLC
Consultant to the Leadership Council of Aging Organizations*

CEUs for Nurses, Long Term Care Professionals, Occupational Therapists, Physical Therapists, Licensed Social Workers, and Home Health Professionals will be available.

Don't miss out on this opportunity to take part in the only state conference on aging in 2016!

Register online at www.OHA.org before 6/17/2016
For questions or more information, call 855-227-5928

The Oklahoma Healthy Aging Initiative (OHA) is a program of the Donald W. Reynolds Department of Geriatric Medicine at The University of Oklahoma and is supported by a grant from the Donald W. Reynolds Foundation.

One night, she found the courage to leave.

With backpacks, she and her kids took off on foot. From a friend's home, she called a **partner agency's** domestic violence shelter and their lives began to turn around. Then another

partner agency's school for homeless kids added to their recovery story.



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