Oklahoma's Nursing Times

Recruiter Showcase



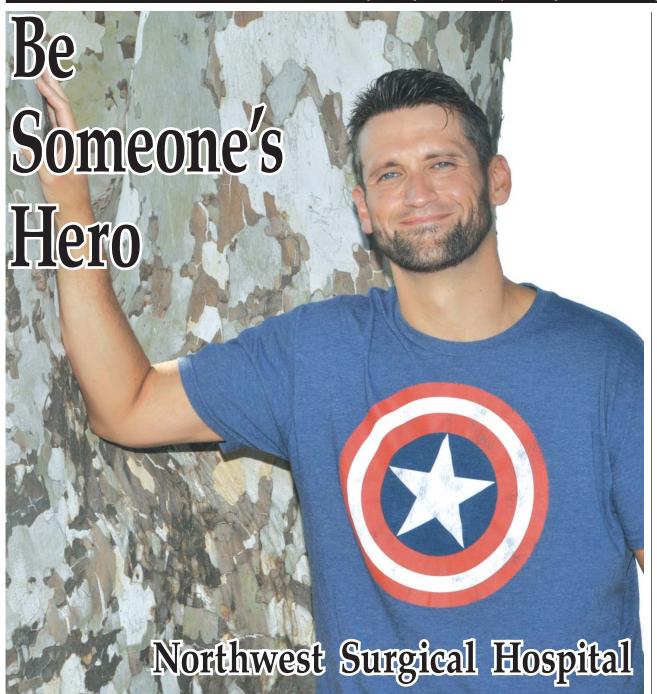
Tues, Oct 13th nterview Day with **INTEGRIS Health Edmond** 7:30am to 12pm

October 12, 2020

Information for the Oklahoma Nursing & Health Care Professional

www.oknursingtimes.com

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Charles Chiple, RN is an outstanding nurse at Northwest Surgical Hospital. He fulfills the hospital's values; compassion, respect, excellence and service.

by Vickie Jenkins, Staff Writer

At Northwest Surgical Hospital, we understand the vital importance of health care in our community. We have made an ongoing commitment to deliver a comprehensive range of services. Patient care is our highest priority at Northwest Surgical Hospital. An extraordinary level of courteous and compassionate care is our standard, and exceeding the expectations of our patients and their families is our constant goal.

With low nurse-to-patient ratios, Northwest Surgical Hospital's nurses have the time to provide excellent service to our patients and families. Our values define both our foundation and our future. Compassion, respect, excellence and service characterize our every interaction. - Northwest Surgical Hospital

With an interest in medicine, Charles Chiple, RN knew that he wanted to be a

ONA Recognizes **INTEGRIS** Canadian Valley Hospital with Excellence in the Workplace Award

INTEGRIS

Canadian Valley Hospital

The Oklahoma Nurses Association (ONA) held its 111th Annual Nurses' Convention hosted for the first time virtually - on Thursday, Oct. 1, 2020. During the event honoring 'The Year of the Nurse', an awards ceremony was held to recognize this year's most outstanding Oklahoma nurses and medical facilities.

The Excellence in the Workplace Environment Award is presented to organizations that have developed positive work environments. These organizations must have developed an innovative and effective program, approach or overall environment that promotes excellent nursing care, creating a positive environment for nurses to work and supports nurses in their practice.

"Although we can't be together today, it's more important than ever to honor Oklahoma's medical facilities that help empower the nursing leaders who inspire us and make positive impacts in the nursing profession," said Shelly Wells, ONA President. "These award recipients are truly changing lives."

This year's recipient of the Excellence in the Workplace Award is INTEGRIS Canadian Valley Hospital in Yukon, Oklahoma.

See AWARD Page 3

See CHIPLE Page 2

CHIPLE Continued from Page 1

nurse. "Actually, when I was little, I had my heart set on becoming a Ninja Turtle or an Oceanographer," he said with a laugh. "I think I made the right choice getting into the medical field. My mother-in-law was a nurse and my wife was in nursing school when I enrolled so it only felt natural to follow the trend," he said. "I have worked at Northwest Surgical Hospital for the last eight years and at Community Hospital for three years prior, so a total of eleven years with the HPI family. Northwest and Community Hospital have a close family like work enviroment with excellent physicians and clinical staff."

Charles is originally from Ohio. "My family shared a career in horse racing. They owned racehorses and also worked as racing officials. Because of that, I lived in many states when I was growing up, and finally, my family settled in Edmond, OK. I served in the Oklahoma National Guard for six years before graduating OSU-OKC for nursing. I have lived in Piedmont for the last

fifteen years and my family lives in the metro area."

What qualities make a good nurse? "In my opinion, a good nurse should never be afraid or be too proud to ask questions or ask for help. A nurse should always take advantage of the combined knowledge and experience of the clinical staff around them," Charles said.

Did you have any mentors while in nursing school? "Yes, Mary Anne Aaron was my first semester nursing instructor. She always encouraged me and made me feel like she saw something special in me the I was unable to see. For that, I will always be grateful," Charles replied.

"Being a nurse is very rewarding. The biggest reward as a nurse is knowing that I have helped someone through a difficult time in their life and hopefully, made them feel like family. On the other hand, my biggest challenge as a nurse is staying current with nursing practices. Sometimes, it can we hard, yet we always manage to see our way through and know that each and every challenge was worth it," Charles commented.

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Charles is an outstanding nurse and has taken leadership roles in the past, discovering direct patient care is where he feels most fulfilled as a nurse. In his spare time, he enjoys spending time with his wife of sixteen years and their eleven years old daughter. He enjoys cycling three to four times a week, and plays Virtual Reality with his daughter. Plus, Charles enjoys playing with his two cats, Waffles and Pickles, a Beta fish named Blue and raising his four chickens.

How has the Coronavirus changed your life? "The Coronavirus has shown me that no matter your beliefs, politics, financial or social status that we are all in this together and it's important that we all look out for each other. It is the things we do when no one is watching; like washing our hands and sanitizing items and surfaces that other people use that makes a huge impact on the well-being of those around us," Charles explained.

"Of course, as extra precautions, as a nurse, hand washing constantly throughout the day has been a standard of nursing care but COVID has added face covering and screening patients, family members and staff members to the mix. At Northwest, all nurses have been fitted with the appropriate respirators and PPE in the event that we cross paths with a positive or suspended coronavirus case," he added.

Being a nurse is definitely Charles calling. Asking Charles to sum up his life in three words, "Be someone's hero," he replied. Have you thanked a hero lately?

Skydance Bridge Turns Pink as American Cancer Society continues Making Strides Against Breast Cancer

The Skydance Bridge in Oklahoma City will turn pink the weekend of Oct. 17, as the American Cancer Society of Oklahoma moves forward with its annual "Making Strides Against Breast Cancer" walk. This year, out of an abundance of caution during the COVID-19 pandemic, the walk will be virtual.

"We encourage all Oklahomans to join us," said Alicia Jackson, ACS Community Development Manager. "Since we are doing a virtual walk, that means people from all corners of the state can participate. Go for a walk in your own neighborhood, at your own pace, and still contribute to the fight against breast cancer."

This year, an estimated 3,100 new cases of breast cancer will be diagnosed in Oklahoma, with nearly 600 estimated deaths. Statistics show some positive results however, as breast cancer death rates among women declined 40 percent from 1989 to 2016.

"Those numbers show early

detection and treatments are working," Jackson said. "But we must maintain our momentum. While we won't be seeing all those beautiful faces in person this year, safety comes first. So, register for the walk, then hit the pavement on your own street or sidewalk, knowing you are helping in the fight against breast cancer."

Participants can register at the city nearest them:

www.makingstrideswalk.org/okcok or

www.makingstrideswalk.org/tulsaok

Additional information on breast cancer can be found at Cancer.org or by phoning 1-800-227-2345.

Follow American Cancer Society on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter @ACSOklahoma.



AWARD

Continued from Page 1

INTEGRIS upholds the highest standards in the workplace environment through its effective programming. The facility's operating pillars and Pathway to Excellence Standards provide safety and quality for patients caregivers. and proven Nurse shadow program ensures the hiring of the industry's top nurses. The Council of Nursing Excellence, established in 2012, allows nurses in each department

to have a voice in decision making. An overall culture of information sharing increases awareness and focus to safe patient and work practices.

"At INTEGRIS Canadian Valley Hospital we strive to build and provide a culture where nurses feel empowered to use their voice and are engaged in their daily work to improve safety, quality, and caregiver engagement," said

YEAR OF THE NURSE

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Brandi Stewart, CNO. "We are so fortunate to work with the best nurses in the state and to be part of the INTEGRIS system that prioritizes supporting the nursing profession."

For more information about ONA or other award winners from the 2020 ONA Annual Convention, visit www.oklahomanurses.org or call 405-840-3476.

PROMISE GARDEN Car Contest



Saturday, October 17, 2020

Drive-by Promise Garden Hours: 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. Bicentennial Park | 500 Couch Dr. Oklahoma City, OK 74119

1. Register your team

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- 3. Decorate your vehicle and display your contest frame proudly! Have some fun while you drive through our view-only Promise garden. Decorate your car purple,
- display your contest frame, and let everyone know that you are walking to #EndALZ! 4. Vote for which team has the best car decorations We will post photos of each car to our Facebook group at facebook.com/groups/okcwalk. Our group members will vote on which team had the best decorated cars, and the winner will

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CAREERS IN NURSING WELLNESS TEAM FOCUSES ON CAMPUS FAMILY: SNU

Vickie Jenkins, Staff Writer

In March of 2020, even as the global pandemic brought an unprecedented halt to SNU's on-campus activities and classes, the university's COVID-19 Task Force was hard at work. This team is made up of SNU's professionals, and a number of administrators and department leaders was formed to ensure that the university's response was swift and effective, while also planning ahead for the anticipated return of students for the fall semester.

SNU's Student Health Center led by Angie Hattler, RN and facilitated by its consulting physician, Ami-Siems, MD, an integral part of the Task Force's focus on ensuring that each member of the campus family had the best possible environment for maintaining health and wellness. Angie said, "Our emphasis since the return of students has been to educate them on how to prevent the spread of Covid 19 and hopefully avoid exposure. We want them to understand that it's virtually important they let us know

when they're experiencing any flu-like the hospital to get IV medications. symptoms so we can do a rapid result, accurate test and help them get well as quickly a possible." the hospital to get IV medications. My third job is something that I just started at the beginning of 2020 and it has been going great. I started a

Not only is Angie Hattler SNU's Health Center Director/Campus Nurse, she also works at OptionOne Pharmacy doing infusions, along with having her own business, OKC Aesthetics LLC doing Botox injections.

Angie has always been a person to serve to those in need. "When my dad was diagnosed with Parkinson's Disease, I knew I wanted to become a nurse so if I ever needed a full time person in be with him, I would give him the best care," she said.

"My SNU job is amazing because I get to work with college age students that want to better themselves and are in the middle of transitioning to adulthood. When I work at my OptionOne job, I am an infusion nurse. I teach home health nurses how to give injections or I teach the families how to give the infusions so the patient does not need to stay in

the hospital to get IV medications. My third job is something that I just started at the beginning of 2020 and it has been going great. I started a Botox injection company called OKC Aesthetics. It has been very rewarding to do something to make people feel better about themselves. With this crazy year of Covid, we all need something to help us not look so worried, tired and stressed," Angie said with a smile.

"When I was little, I wanted to be a teacher. I always loved helping and teaching. It is amazing how teaching and nursing are related. A lot of my job is making sure I communicate well, and the patient understands what they need to do to feel better or live a healthy life," Angie commented.

Growing up in Jonesboro, Arkansas, Angie moved to OKC to go to SNU for college and never moved back. She went to her undergrad at SNU and went to Nursing School at Oklahoma City Community College through the BADNAP program.

Asking Angie how Coronavirus changed her life, she replied, "It has changed my life at home and at work. At home, my clothes and shoes come off at the door. I wash my hands constantly and masks are just a part of my body now. At work, SNU added many more hours to the day we are open, we have a Covid hotline for questions or concerns for after hours. SNU has invested in testing, masks and PPE. We hired a part-time nurse and a full time administrative assistant in the Student Health Center. The student development office has been working with us constantly to do the contact tracing. We have been working since March on protocols, updating policies, changing protocols with the new CDC guidelines and trying to make things work smoothly so we are as safe as possible.

At OptionOne we are all wearing masks, screening every patient before

See TEAM Page 5



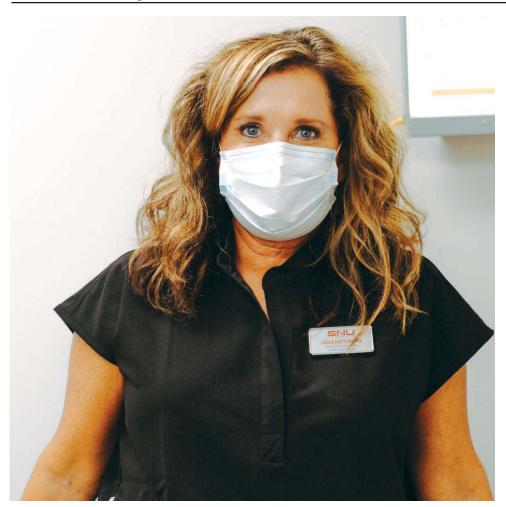
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Angie Hattler, RN is well known around SNU for her dedicated work as SNU's Student Health Center director/Campus Nurse. She also has her own business, OKC Aesthetics LLC.



SNU Front row- Angie Hattler, RN/Director, Dr. Ami Siems-MD, Kelsey Castillo, RN. Back row- Jacob Wright- Admin. Assistant, Cindy Greer, CNA.

TEAM Continued from Page 4

we arrive at the home, being very careful where we go to keep our patients safe. Most of our patients are already immunocompromised.

At OKC Aesthetics, we are wearing masks, having to do much

more after hours and weekday appointments due to my responsibilities at the other jobs," Angie added.

Summing up Angie's life, she said, "I am a person with my glass half full and have been most of my life. I am positive, energetic, and love the Lord with everything! I am blessed more than I deserve," she said.

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klahoma's Nursing Times

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140 GENERAL NURSING

We are in need of a PRN, or as needed, Clinic Nurse/LPN for the after hours/urgent care clinic. Purcell Municipal Hospital located at 1500 N Green Ave, Purcell, OK 73080 is in need of a PRN, or as needed, Clinic Nurse/LPN for the after hours / urgent care clinic. Monday-Friday 8a-7p, varied weekends: Saturday 10a-6p, Sunday 10a-4p. No holidays. Openings are for evening shifts and weekend days. The Clinic Nurse/LPN must perform the functions of a licensed practical nurse or registered nurse in assessing, planning, implementing, and evaluating all assigned patient care in collaboration with Physicians and Physician Assistant(s). They are responsible for adhering to

all Standards of Nursing

Practice, for managing

supplies and equipment

with the direction of the

Clinic Physician Assistant

and/or Physicians. Must

have current Oklahoma

LPN license and prior work

experience in clinic setting.

140 GENERAL NURSING

We are seeking Aide to join our team.

Reports directly to the Director of Operations and function under the supervision of the Registered Nurse and/or Clinical Supervisor. New Century Hospice, 4111 South Darlington Avenue, Suite #650, Tulsa, OK 74135.

We are seeking **Director of Clinical** Services/Director of Nursing

Education: Registered Nurse - Must possess, as a minimum, a Nursing Degree from an accredited college or university. Experience: Must have, as a minimum, 3 years of experience as a supervisor in a hospital, nursing care facility, or other related health care facility. Must have, as a minimum six (6) months experience in rehabilitative & restorative nursing practices. North County Nursing and

Rehabilitation. 2300 W Broadway St, Collinsville, OK 74021

161 LICENSED PRACTICAL NURSING

We are seeking Licensed **Practical Nurse**

Home Health - Weekends PRN at Encompass Health - Home Health and Hospice in Stillwater, Oklahoma. At Encompass Health - Home Health, the LPN administers skilled nursing services to clients requiring intermittent professional services.

These services are

performed in the clients' home in accordance with the physician's orders and the established plan of care, under the direction and supervision of the Branch Director and Supervising RN, and teaches the client, family and other members of the health care team. 2318 West 7th Street, Stillwater, OK 74074.

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161 LICENSED PRACTICAL NURSING

We Are Seeking LPNs! CoreCivic located in 3200 S Kings Hwy, Cushing, OK 74023. At CoreCivic we do more than manage inmates, we care for people. CoreCivic is

currently seeking Licensed Practical Nurses who have a passion for providing the highest quality care in an institutional setting. The Licensed Vocational Nurse is responsible for the performances of basic nursing duties to include

execution of physician orders, operation of pill call, operation of sick call, and assisting the physician in examinations and treatments and performs

technical/clinical procedures within the scope of his/her license. Assists in the professional management of the facility medical department.

Qualifications: Graduate from an approved school of Oklahoma's Nursing Times nursing with a certificate as have more than 12,000 a LPN. Must be licensed in the state of employment. A valid driver's license is required. Minimum age requirement: Must be at

least 20 years of age.



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204 REGISTERED NURSE

We are seeking Registered Nurse Case Manager

Aspire Home Care and Hospice in Stillwater, OK. (855) 527-7473. A RN administers skilled nursing care to patients on an intermittent basis in their place of residence. This is performed in accordance with physician orders and plan of care under the direction and supervision of the Director of Clinical Services/Branch Manager. Supervises care of Licensed Practical Nurse and Home Health Aide.

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year 6) and 7 paid holidays. 401-K match provided by

Parkside after 1 year of FT work, which is 100%

vested. We have other exceptional benefits (e.g.,

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Long Term Disability).



Tuesday, October 13th Interview Day with INTEGRIS Health Edmond 7:30am to 12pm

Our Edmond facility is expanding and has more than doubled in size to serve the community of Edmond.

INTEGRIS Health Edmond opened its doors October 2011 on 44 acres, the facility was built incorporating environmentally-sensitive features and construction techniques which minimize the hospital's impact to the environment. Over the past nine years, we have added additional Medical Office space and Arcadia Trails Center for Addiction & Recovery. The campus is surrounded by beautiful scenery and has grown with the community with this latest expansion of now doubling in size.

Prepare by:

- 1. Applying online prior to attending www.integrisok.jobs keyword search 'Edmond'
- 2. Uploading your resume if you have one
- 3. Come prepared to start the hiring process and bring:
 - Immunization record
 - Two forms of Identification for the federal I-9 form

Where:

4801 INTEGRIS Parkway
Edmond, OK 73034

(Just east off I-35 between 2nd Street exit and the 15th Street exit)





October is SIDS Awareness Month

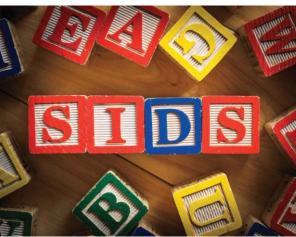
October is Sudden Infant Death sleep-related infant deaths." Syndrome (SIDS) awareness month. The Oklahoma State Department newborns for 60 minutes a day

of Health (OSDH) wants all parents of new babies to know that there are steps they can take to protect their children from the risk posed by SIDS.

"All Oklahoma parents want to be the best mom or dad they can be, and that includes protecting their children from these risks," said James Craig, Public Health Social Work Coordinator and Infant Safe Sleep Coordinator for OSDH. "Part of my role as

Infant Safe Sleep Coordinator is to communicate the most accurate and up-to-date information as possible to parents on these protective measures they can take to reduce the risk associated with

Skin-to-skin contact



for the first three months of life is a great bonding experience for mothers and fathers, and has been shown to be protective against SIDS as well providing the baby with greater success at regulating their heartbeat and breathing. Skin-to-skin contact with the parent can also increase success with breastfeeding.

Breastfeeding, when possible for the first year of life, has been shown to be another protective factor against SIDS, and provides a wide variety of benefits to the baby as well.

> One of the simplest ways to protect newborns and keep infants safe while sleeping is to make sure they are sleeping in a safe environment without anything else in the sleep space with them, with the exception of a pacifier. Pacifier use (after breastfeeding is established) has also been shown to be a protective factor against the risk of SIDS.

While this means that babies do need to sleep in their own sleep space such as a crib, portable crib (also known as a pack-n-play), or bassinet, sharing the room with the baby is also a protective action parents can take both to decrease the infant's SIDS risk and to better respond to and be alerted to the baby's need for feeding, changing, comfort, and other needs.

Keeping the babies' environment free of tobacco use, either through secondhand exposure or the thirdhand residue in clothes and surfaces in the environment that have absorbed these chemicals is key, as along with alcohol use, tobacco use is one of the most highly correlated risks associated with Sudden Unexplained Infant Death (SUID). Finally, using sleep sacks (also known as wearable blankets) instead of swaddling with a blanket can both eliminate any loose bedding in the crib, and assist with keeping them safe against any concerns about overheating since that is a risk factor directly linked to SIDS. The Oklahoma State Department of Health (OSDH) currently partners with 28 birthing hospitals in Oklahoma to provide sleep sacks to each baby born into the majority of Oklahoma hospitals. Visit www.health.ok.gov to learn more.



(AS PUBLISHED IN THE 2020 EDUCATION GUIDE TO NURSING)

Opportunity abounds at Hillcrest

Opportunity.

It's something nurses crave but not all have access without changing employers.

The opportunity to provide exceptional patient care in a progressive environment. The opportunity to advance both their education and their career.

Melissa Trujillo, director of talent acquisition, says nurses can find it all with Hillcrest Healthcare System.

Serving communities throughout Hillcrest Oklahoma, eastern HealthCare System (HHS) includes Hillcrest Medical Center, Hillcrest Hospital South, Oklahoma Heart Institute, Bailey Medical Center, Hillcrest Hospital Claremore, Hillcrest Hospital Cushing, Hillcrest Hospital Henryetta, Hillcrest Hospital Pryor, Tulsa Spine & Specialty Hospital and Utica Park Clinic.

Across its hospitals and health care facilities, HHS offers 1,249 beds and employs a team of more than 6,500.

Eight facilities and two physician practice groups offer a multitude of opportunities for nurses.

"I feel like mobility is a big thing to offer," Trujillo said. "Sixty percent of our hires in the system are transfers. We constantly have nurses transferring from one facility to another. I think as an HR group we offer a tailor to your skillset and a tailor to your liking. We are a place that promotes transferring from within."

Not only are nurses able to transfer within facilities but being owned by Ardent Health Services allows nurses to transfer to other states.

Whether it be facilities in Texas or New Mexico or along the East coast the options are there.

"We really offer internal mobility," Trujillo said. "If they were to transfer here to New Mexico they would keep their PTO and their years of service. I would say we pride ourselves on internal mobility because we would rather that RN stays in our system."

"We have lots of opportunities within the system for movement and

exposure."

Hillcrest Medical Center, 1120 S Utica Ave., employs nearly 2,500 in multiple units. Hillcrest Hospital South, 8801 S 101st E Ave, staffs nearly 1,000.

New this year at Hillcrest South is a nursing residency program for those graduating in the spring.

"You enter the program, get exposure to multiple units and once you're out of the program then you're well-equipped to go into whatever unit you desire," Trujillo said. "What we're really hoping is they get exposure to units they may think they would not be interested in."

Trujillo points to HIllcrest's medical/surgical units that have an added specialty such as trauma or ortho.

"To me you don't know what you don't know," Trujillo said. "And since it's temporary and a residency program you're getting that exposure and moving on to the next one. You might have an experience that resonates with you and persuades you to go to the less popular unit just because you're finding out what your niche is."

Hillcrest also offers up to \$2,500 per semester in tuition reimbursement for career advancement. Relocation and sign-on bonuses are also available for new grads.

"Not a lot of facilities in the area offer both of those things for a new grad," Trujillo said.

The system is a large one but time and attention is spent on onboarding new hires and making sure they feel comfortable.

"We've put a lot of time and effort into it to make sure the new grad feels safe. It's a lot of detail-oriented training," Trujillo said. "I think we've narrowed down the reasons why nurses quit, leave or leave the profession all together is because they don't feel adequately trained enough to do their job or they feel unsafe.

"I think a lot of our programs are focused around making that new grad feel safe but yet giving them the exposure and skills that they need to be successful on down the road as an RN."

Last September Modern Healthcare announced rankings for health care organizations recognized as Best Places to Work in Healthcare, with 12 Ardent Health Services hospitals, clinics and other entities among the top in the country.

Six of those facilities were in Oklahoma.

Tulsa Spine and Specialty ranked No. 6 on the overall list.

"Providing excellent patient care and service is driven by highly engaged employees," noted Ardent President and CEO David T. Vandewater. "Creating

a supportive work environment is critical to the success of our company, and having so many Ardent facilities named to the 'Best Place to Work in Healthcare' affirms that our employees are focused on our purpose of caring for others: our patients, their families and one another."

Modern Healthcare's rankings are based on interviews with leadership and physicians, and a confidential employee survey that assesses satisfaction, work-life balance, communication, policies and practices, work environment and culture. Visit: <a href="https://ht





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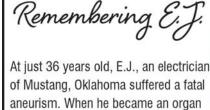
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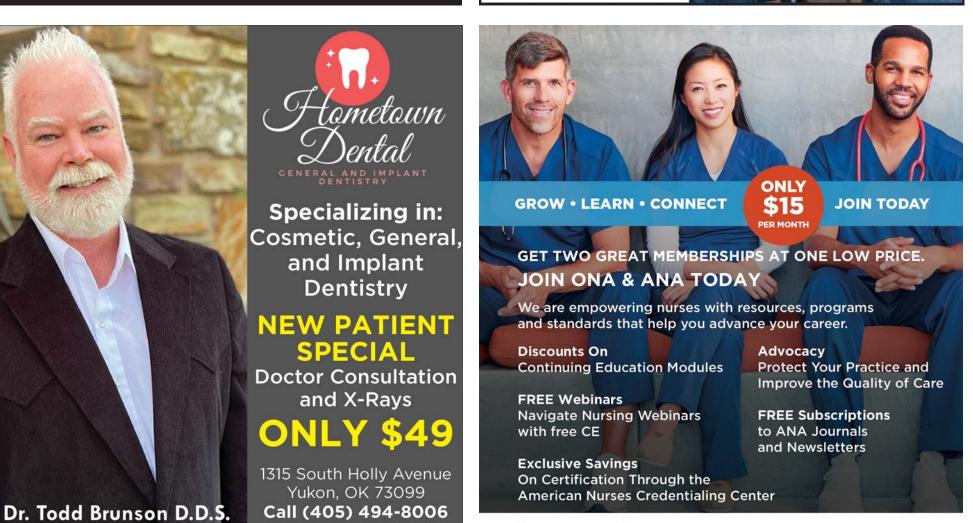
donor at the time of his untimely death, he was able to save the lives of five

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, eve 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.



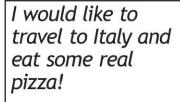








To travel to Africa and kill a black water buffalo.





I would like to ride elephants in Bali.

I want to retire and travel with my husband.



Stevie McMillan, LPN



Mindy Sylvester, RNQA





Adiyo Owili-Eger, Intake Director LPN



Janet Pettijohn, RN, Coder/QA



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Your health and safety are our top priorities, so we aren't having a large in-person gathering this year — instead, we invite you to walk in small teams of friends and family while others in your community do the same.

Walk to End Alzheimer's® - Oklahoma City October 17, 2020



9 a.m.

Log into okcwalk.com before the Ceremony to visit Mainstage, the event's new, interactive online experience. Livestream the Opening and Promise Garden Ceremony at 9 a.m.



9:30 a.m.

Walk in your neighborhood, on any sidewalk, track or trail. Download the Walk to End Izheimer's mobile app to track your steps and receive messages of support along your route.



10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Drive through the planted Promise Garden, which is view only, to experience your community's reasons to end Izheimer's. The Promise Garden will be located at Icentennial Park.

For more information about this year's event, visit okcwalk.com

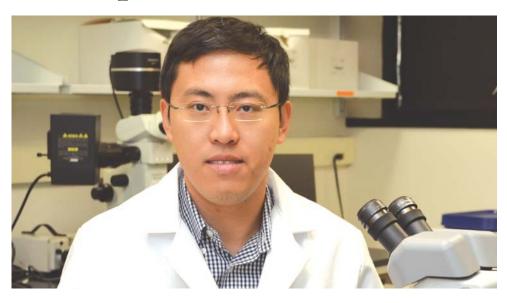
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Edward Jones





OMRF receives \$2.2 million to study protein's role in reproduction, cancer



Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation scientist Jian Li, Ph.D.

The National Institutes of Health has awarded the Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation \$2.2 million to study a cellular protein's role in reproduction and cancer.

OMRF researcher Jian Li, Ph.D., received a five-year grant that will investigate the role that a cellular protein called HSF1 plays in cell division and growth.

"Reproduction and cancer may seem unrelated, but at a basic level, they both have to do with how cells divide," said Li, who joined OMRF from Northwestern University in Chicago in 2017. "In reproduction, cells need to divide properly. And in cancer, cell division is out of control, which grows and spreads the disease."

The protein his lab has zeroed in on is proven to have an important role in healthy cell division, Li explained, but studying it in the context where something has gone wrong is crucial.

"We want to better understand the role this protein plays when reproduction doesn't go as it should, such as in infertility. Knowing that, we could provide ideas that could aid in successful pregnancy through therapies that target the protein," Li said. "And on the flip side, if we know exactly what to turn off, it could also be a target for drugs that can stop the spread or growth of certain cancers."

The grant is Li's first independent funding from the NIH. It was awarded under a program for promising scientists still early in their careers, known as the Maximizing Investigators' Research Award, or MIRA. The competitive federal program offers long-term support, the flexibility to pursue new research directions and favors bold, risk-taking science.

An assistant member in OMRF's Aging and Metabolism Research Program, Li completed his doctoral studies at Penn State and a postdoctoral fellowship at Northwestern University. His lab at OMRF was launched with support from the Centers of Biomedical Research Excellence (COBRE) program, which helps junior scientists establish independent research programs. OMRF scientist Linda Thompson, Ph.D., leads the program.

"We are thrilled that Dr. Li received this MIRA award; he is highly deserving, and it enables him to 'graduate' from our COBRE program as an independently funded investigator," said Thompson, who holds the Putnam City Schools Distinguished Chair in Cancer Research at OMRF. "This is exciting work with important human health implications."

The grant (1 R35 GM138364-01) is funded by the National Institute of General Medical Sciences, a part of the NIH.

SITUATION UPDATE:

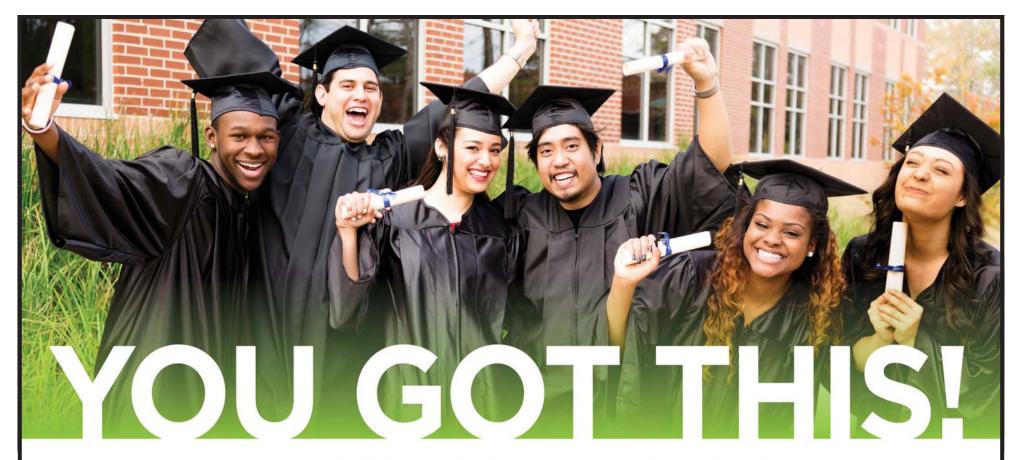
- This week, two counties moved from the "orange" risk phase to "yellow" and eight counties moved from "yellow" to "orange". OSDH continues to monitor closely the statewide hospitalization trends for COVID-19.
- The COVID-19 Alert map will be updated every Friday in the Situation Update at 11:00 a.m. This week's map can be seen in this update below the test results chart.
- As OSDH continues to meet with stakeholders across the state, the COVID-19 Alert Map is subject to further revisions as science and public health guidance advances with the ongoing pandemic.
- As of this advisory, there are 97,088 cases of COVID-19 in Oklahoma.
- There are 6 additional deaths identified to report. One death was identified in the past 24 hours.
- * One in Canadian County, one male in the 50 64 age group.
- * One in Grady County, one male in the 65 or older age group.
- Cases 97,088 *Total 1,224,883 Cumulative Negative Specimens to Date *Total 1,336,562 Cumulative Number of Specimens to Date **Currently 749 Hospitalized Total 7,124 Cumulative Hospitalizations Identified Deaths in the Past 24 hours Total 1,091 Cumulative Deaths
- * One in Muskogee County, one male in the 65 or older age group.
- * One in Ottawa County, one female in the 50 64 age group.
- * One in Payne County, one male in the 36 49 age group.
- * One in Tulsa County, one male in the 65 or older age group.
- There are 1,091 total deaths in the state.
- For more information, visit coronavirus.health.ok.gov.

*The total includes laboratory information provided to OSDH at the time of the report. Total counts may not reflect unique individuals.

**This number is a combination of hospitalized positive cases and hospitalized persons under investigation, as reported by hospitals at the time of the report. The data reflect a change in calculation and should not be compared to prior data.

***The purpose of publishing aggregated statistical COVID-19 data through the OSDH Dashboard, the Executive Order Report, and the Weekly Epidemiology and Surveillance Report is to support the needs of the general public in receiving important and necessary information regarding the state of the health and safety of the citizens of Oklahoma. These resources may be used only for statistical purposes and may not be used in any way that would determine the identity of any reported cases.

Data Source: Acute Disease Service, Oklahoma State Department of Health. *As of 2020-10-09 at 7:00 a.m.



...and it's not too early to start thinking about what you'll do after you graduate.



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- Alexis, RN

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