



Rebecca Slavens, LPN, does not give up when the going gets rough.

by James Coburn - staff writer

Rebecca Slavens loves providing God's work as a nurse. She fell in love with the elderly when she came to work at Stillwater Creek Skilled Nursing & Therapy in 1996.

"I feel like he's led me to be here and help the elderly," said Slavens, LPN and charge nurse.

Her grandparents were gone while she was growing up in New Mexico and Colorado. At age 18 she moved to Stillwater. Three years later

she became a licensed practical nurse. At first, she was just looking for employment and applied for housekeeping. The nursing home offered her a job as a CNA until a position in housekeeping opened there.

"I told the lady I didn't know anything about that line of work. And she said, "Don't worry, we will train you," Slavens

See SLAVENS Page 2

OU Health Invests \$50 Million in Workforce



Since merging its hospitals and clinics into a single entity on July 1, OU Health has invested \$50 million in its workforce.

"As Oklahoma's only comprehensive, integrated academic healthcare system, it is important that OU Health invest in our workforce and provide benefits that attract and retain the most talented physicians, nurses and other types of healthcare providers and staff. Our people are our biggest asset. Every day, they come to work committed to serving the patients who seek our care," said Harold Burkhardt, M.D., Acting CEO for OU Health.

Investing in workforce capacity is also critical during the time of COVID-19, which has taken a toll on healthcare providers and prompted many to leave the field. OU Health, like healthcare systems across the nation, faces a significant shortage of nurses. To strengthen the workforce, OU Health has provided retention bonuses, pay increases, and launched several initiatives that focus on well-being.

Investments include the following:

- Retention bonuses for direct-care registered nurses, respiratory therapists, licensed practical nurses, patient service representatives, medical assistants and scrub technicians
- Pay increases for select positions
- Career ladder opportunities for respiratory therapists, imaging technicians and surgical technicians
- \$14 minimum rate of pay across the health system
- Increase in paid time off (PTO) accruals over three years to bring OU Health into the 75th percentile of academic medical centers
- 100% short-term disability benefit for all employee

See INVESTS Page 3

SLAVENS

Continued from Page 1

recalled.

Being a CNA brought her to admire a group of nurses who wanted to help people in need. She remains a strong defender of the elderly today. The nursing staff could choose to work somewhere else.

"But they chose here. There is just something about helping somebody that helps you as well," Slavens said.

Her compassion and grace were put to work in early 2020 as COVID began challenging life in America. Nurses began hearing about a deadly disease spreading through Oklahoma. The numbers were not good.

"When it came to our building it spread like a wildfire," Slavens said.

A core group of nurses didn't give up as others left the profession. Nurses at Stillwater Creek Skilled Nursing & Therapy didn't bury their head in the sand. They faced the facts by educating themselves about the pandemic and adopted best practices from the Centers for

Disease Control and Prevention.

"It was a very trying time just watching everybody work alongside with you," she said. "All members of the team from the housekeepers to administration — just watching them work together to take care of them and going through the sadness when we lost one of the residents was quite a trying time. It brought us closer together."

She attributes her strength of character to Jesus Christ, the residents, and her fellow co-workers. Slavens will never forget the patient-centered care she has witnessed by staff to the residents.

One CNA set an example of working long hours through the weekends. There were barely enough CNAs on staff due to COVID, but Denise went above and beyond expectations to provide the residents more care, Slavens said.

"It was just seeing those people put in extra hours to be there because the residents needed it," she continued.

Slavens said sadly, she sees fewer nurses applying for positions as there were before the pandemic. COVID burnout and the pre-existing nursing shortage have

increased the employment gap.

"We're feeling that," she said.

Her grandchildren fill a lot of her leisure time. Slavens re-energizes by going to church and reading.

"I focus on family when I'm not here," she said.

Her extended family includes the residents making their home at Stillwater Creek Skilled Nursing & Therapy.

"I've worked here a long time and I hear a lot of stories, and I enjoy hearing them and they enjoy it. They enjoy reminiscing about their past when they were young and their children when they were little," Slavens said.

She learns of their careers and even painful times of the residents' lives. Many intriguing people have conversed with Slavens through the years. Professors, doctors, engineers, housewives, and farmers have shared sentiments with Slavens.

Nurses who have spent decades helping patients have become residents at Stillwater Creek as well. Some of them bring empathy to their bedside.

"Some of them will tell you, 'I know what it's like. I was a nurse, too. Just take your time,'"

Slavens added. "And some are very firm because they used to be a nurse. They know how it should be done."

Being a nurse is unlike any other job, she said. Nursing stands out among other careers that bring a human connection, Slavens said.

"It's watching a patient improve in health, and watching them sometimes leave here," she said. "They get their rehab, and you watch their daily achievements and getting to go home, or being with a patient that's dying, and you are there with their families to make their last moments more comfortable — as peaceful as it can be with them."

Slavens cherishes the friendships made with family members. A special bond develops as families know her by name.

"They trust you and that's very important. They are leaving their family members here and entrusting them with people they don't know to take care of them," Slavens said. "Once they know us and trust us, they know they can go to you."

For more information visit: www.stillwatercreekok.com



TAKE YOUR NURSING CAREER TO THE NEXT LEVEL!

The Kramer Way Scholarship is available for new traditional BSN and MSN students!

*A limited number of scholarships are available to qualified applicants for the Spring 2022 semester.

Nursing Programs at Kramer School of Nursing

- LPN-BSN
- RN-BSN
- BSN
- MSN
- DNP
- PhD

UNDERGRAD
405-208-5000
admissions@okcu.edu

GRAD
405-208-5094
gadmissions@okcu.edu



okcu.edu/nursing



Our daughter, Ellie, was born in November 2008. When she was 3 months old, we found out she had a liver problem. We went to Children's Hospital in OKC, but were soon sent to a transplant center in Nebraska for evaluation. On March 18th, Ellie was put on the list for transplant. We came back home to wait. Ellie was treated at Children's twice a week, until she began to lose weight in May. We went back to Nebraska the day after Mother's Day, and she was admitted to the hospital. While there, I was evaluated as a living donor for Ellie, and we soon learned I could give her part of my liver. Ellie's transplant was on May 22, 2009. It was the hardest thing that I've ever done, but the

easiest decision of my life. We came home Father's Day weekend.

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. If you don't have a license or state ID card and do not have internet access, call 800-826-LIFE (5433) and ask for a donor registration card.



Staffing Challenges In Long Term Care Facilities

The COVID-19 pandemic has put a tremendous strain on nursing homes and assisted living communities across the country, but one area that continues to worsen among facilities is the workforce crisis. Long term care facilities are experiencing growing staff vacancies as burned-out caregivers exit the profession. A recent American Health Care Association and National Center for Assisted Living (AHCA/NCAL) survey found that 86 percent of nursing homes and 77 percent of assisted living providers say their workforce situation has gotten worse in just a few months.

Providers want to offer higher wages and better benefits to attract and retain employees but lack the necessary funds to do so. For years nursing homes have faced low Medicaid reimbursement rates that do not adequately cover the cost of care. These low rates, coupled with additional expenses from the pandemic, have left many facilities in financial turmoil. And now as staff challenges grow, providers are left without the means to hire new workers or keep their current ones.

Washington Newsday recently reported the dire labor shortages in long term care. According to data from the Bureau of Labor, nursing homes and residential care facilities have lost more than 425,000 employees during the course of the pandemic. Fewer caregivers are forcing many facilities to have to turn away new residents. The AHCA/NCAL survey also found that 58 percent of nursing homes have had to limit new admissions because of a lack of employees. A recent story in MarketWatch highlighted the significant drop in nursing home occupancy during the pandemic. In just the span of a year, occupancy rates fell from 85 percent to 68 percent. Now, nursing homes are struggling to recover due, in part, to staffing shortages, as occupancy rates have only increased to 72 percent.

Lawmakers can address chronic staffing challenges through the reconciliation package currently in discussion.

INVESTS

Continued from Page 1

- Creation of a Mental Health Helpline for employees in response to the COVID-19 pandemic
- Bonuses of up to \$10,000 for OU Health employees who refer candidates hired into eligible positions
- Paid maternity and paternity leave for all new parents up to 12 weeks
- \$20,000 lifetime benefit for infertility diagnosis and treatment
- Childcare enhancements, including 24/7 emergency back-up childcare and virtual tutoring
- Workforce of the Future program in which eligible employees can work some or all of the time from home
- OU Health Travel at Home, giving current nurses the option of receiving a higher hourly rate in lieu of a benefits package
- OU Health Weekend Program, which pays nurses for 72 hours when they commit to working four 12-hour weekend shifts in each two-week pay period
- Tuition reimbursement and scholarships for OU Health nurses seeking to continue their education at the Ziegler College of Nursing at the

OU Health Sciences Center

"The investments we are making at OU Health are critical both for the short and long term," said OU Health Interim Chief Nursing Executive Julie Hoff, Ph.D., MPH, RN. "Our aim is to grow, strengthen and enhance our healthcare system. It is our goal to ensure all members of the healthcare team are prepared and empowered to help drive the OU Health System to its best future."

**SERVING MORE THAN
20,000 RN's AND LPN's
EVERY WEEK!
AND NOW...
WITH NEARLY 12,500
FOLLOWERS ON
FACEBOOK!
Let us find your next
team member!
PRINT - JOB ALERTS -
FACEBOOK - JOB BOARD -**

YOUR TRUSTED MEDICARE RESOURCE

INCREASE BENEFITS • REDUCE COSTS • NO COST CONSULTATION



Christina Sibley, EMT/RMA

Medicare Specialist

405-655-6098

csibleyinsures@gmail.com

BS Health Studies-Gerontology

Steven Sibley, RET/DAV

Life, Health, LTC, & Disability

405-850-1569

ssibleyinsures@gmail.com

MBA - Healthcare Administration



Steven and Christina Sibley are licensed, independent Insurance Brokers. Their focus is finding the best products to insure their client's Life, Health, Long Term Care and Medicare insurance needs are fully and affordably met, both now and in retirement. With her 20 years of healthcare experience and his 20 years of financial services experience, they are ready to offer you the information and personalized service you expect and deserve. There's never any pressure, or any charge, just help.



sibleyinsures.com



**A Mass Mutual of Oklahoma
Healthcare in Retirement Planning Partner**

Disabled Veteran | Native American | Woman owned company

SERVING OK, KS, TX, AZ, NM

Enid Woman Encourages Breast Awareness After Facing Cancer

Breast cancer is the most commonly diagnosed cancer among American women. Approximately one in eight U.S. women (roughly 13 percent) will develop invasive breast cancer over the course of her lifetime.

Sandy Schapansky, like thousands of other women diagnosed with breast cancer, never imagined she would be one of them.

A wife and mother of two grown daughters, Schapansky is like many women in their mid-50's – enjoying an empty nest, watching grandchildren play sports and traveling as much as possible. She has a friendly, outgoing personality and beautiful smile. If you met Sandy on the street, you would never guess the hardships she has confronted over the past 12 months.

Schapansky's story really begins 25 years ago, when she was just 30 years old. "I had just had a baby, and I discovered a lump in my right breast," she said. "I had it checked out, and it turned out to be what is called macrocalcifications, which

are small calcium deposits in the soft tissue of the breasts. These are usually noncancerous, although some patterns can be a sign of cancer." Schapansky went on, "It looks kind of like glitter on a mammogram. It can be completely normal, but is something that can turn into cancer, so I began to get screened for breast cancer every one to two years."

She continued her screenings throughout her 30's and 40's without incident. No new lumps. Nothing to be concerned about.

In late 2019, Schapansky, then age 55, was working for INTEGRIS Health ENT Jerome Dilling, M.D., as a medical assistant. "Things were very busy at work and busy in my personal life, and I felt like I didn't have time to squeeze in my mammogram, so I put it off. I told myself I would do it after the beginning of the year, when things started to slow down." Then COVID-19 hit, sending everything into a tailspin.

A few months later, in September 2020, Schapansky felt an unusual

lump in her left breast, which she thought to be somewhat odd, because her right breast was the one with the microcalcifications and the one she always kept a close eye on. She immediately scheduled a mammogram.

An hour after the appointment, the clinic called and asked her to come back in for additional views and an ultrasound of her left breast. While she was there, they also scanned her underarm, which Schapansky knew was not a good sign. They told her at that time the abnormality that was found appeared to be cancerous.

The next step was to undergo a guided biopsy. The results came back confirming that she in fact did have cancer - invasive ductal carcinoma, which is the most common type of breast cancer, representing about 80 percent of breast cancer cases.

An MRI further confirmed that the cancer had spread to Schapansky's lymph nodes, meaning that her cancer was designated as stage three.

Schapansky said she felt more comfortable with a female surgeon and chose INTEGRIS Health's Stephanie Taylor, M.D., located in Yukon, to perform a lumpectomy and remove two lymph nodes to which the cancer had spread.

Following her surgery, Schapansky began chemotherapy treatment with Sumbal Nabi, M.D., and her team at the INTEGRIS Cancer Institute of Enid in December 2020. "They are the kindest, best support system you could ever imagine," she said. "When you're scared to death of the unknown, they put you at ease."

Schapansky continued on about her experience, "Throughout the process I was sick, I cried, and I asked if I was going to lose my hair. Dr. Nabi told me I would. That first day of chemo was the hardest, most emotional day I have faced. I got really sick. The thing that got me through is knowing the hurt others have faced, like losing a child. Chemo was bad, but I know

See **CANCER** Page 5

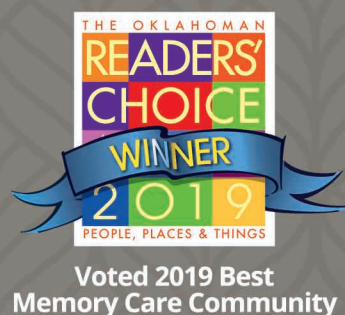


LIVING IS NOT ONE-SIZE FITS ALL. SO, HOW CAN ASSISTED LIVING AND MEMORY CARE BE?

We serve the individual's need for purpose, independence and dignity. Our loving, expert staff improves life with innovative, individual programs and therapies. You really must see Legend® at Rivendell for yourself.

Call now and join us for lunch and a tour. **Discover the Legend Senior Living® difference today.**

Call to learn more: **(405) 703-2300**



LEGEND®
ASSISTED LIVING & MEMORY CARE
at Rivendell

LegendSeniorLiving.com
A Residence of Legend Senior Living®

CANCER

Continued from Page 4

there are worse things that I could have faced."

In April of this year Shapansky finished her treatments and went back to work. Dilling retired, so she ended up working with OB/GYNs Michael S. Jackson, M.D. and Andrea Partida, D.O., at INTEGRIS Women's Health Enid. "I feel like this is exactly where I'm supposed to be," Schapansky said of her new role. "I feel like God put me here for a reason, and I'm really enjoying it."

Two weeks after her chemo treatments ended, Schapansky began taking radiation therapy each day after work at the INTEGRIS Bass Radiation Oncology Clinic, completing 33 treatments. "It was scary to get started, just like chemo, but the girls in the clinic really helped make me feel comfortable and at ease. Their care and compassion made such a big difference for me."

It's been a long year for Schapansky, and this month she will go for her final CAT scan to see if she is now cancer-free, although her tumor markers indicate that she is.

After her experience, Schapansky's message to other women is simple. "Know your breasts. If you are familiar with them, then you will be more likely to recognize changes if they do happen. Be proactive."

She emphasizes that communication with your physician is important as well. "If you think something might be amiss, call your doctor. Phone calls are free," she said with a smile.

And, of course, she wants to encourage women who are the appropriate age to get those mammograms and not put them off. Don't skip them. "Had I not waited and put my mammogram off, I feel like I probably would have caught my cancer sooner, before it had moved into my lymph nodes," she said.

Sandy has inspired her sister and both daughters to become more proactive in their own breast health with mammograms and self-exams, something that she feels good about.

"I never dreamed I'd have breast cancer. It came out of nowhere," Schapansky said. "But today, I am 56 years old and looking forward to the future. I can't live in fear."



Sandy Schapansky, wife and mother of two grown daughters.

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND!

BEATLES

VS

STONES



A MUSICAL SHOWDOWN

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 13

8PM

ALL AGES

TOWER THEATRE

425 NW 23rd St, Oklahoma City, OK

GET YOUR TICKETS NOW!

Tickets are \$30 - \$65, plus ticket fees, and may be purchased online at www.towertheatreokc.com

Use Promo Code **"FAB4"** and get **20% Off** for Seniors and our RN/LPN Heroes!



**Practical Nursing Instructor
Rockwell Campus**
Closes: 11/4/21 (noon CST on closing date)



FRANCISTUTTLE
TECHNOLOGY CENTER

Select the following link for extended job description & to complete online application with district. Application must be submitted online with the district in order to be considered for position:
www.francistuttle.edu/discover/jobs

Francis Tuttle offers a comprehensive benefit package for full-time employment to include paid health and dental insurance and 100% contribution into the Oklahoma Teachers Retirement System. Only candidates of interest will be contacted. EOE





**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
1 6 7	Medical/Surgical
1 7 0	Nurse Practitioner
1 7 3	OB/Gyn
1 7 6	Occupational Health
1 7 9	Office
1 8 2	Oncology
1 8 5	O.R./PACU
1 8 8	Orthopedic
1 9 0	Pediatric
1 9 1	Pharmacist
1 9 2	Physicians Assistant
1 9 7	Public Health
2 0 0	Rehabilitation





Nurse Hiring Event

Meet hiring managers, interview and potentially receive an offer for available RN positions with INTEGRIS Health.

**Friday, Nov. 5
7 to 11 a.m.**

INTEGRIS Health
One Corporate Plaza
3520 NW 58th Street
Oklahoma City, OK 73112

Breakfast will be provided and prize drawings will be held throughout the event.

INTEGRIS Health considers all qualified applicants regardless of protected status as defined by applicable law, including protected veteran or disability status. AA/EOE.

integriskok.jobs

Are you Reading This? So are more than 25,000 Registered Nurses and Licensed Practical Nurses. Fun Fact: Did You Know Oklahoma's Nursing Times Has More Than 12,000 Likes On Facebook? To Advertise, Please Call Oklahoma's Nursing Times at (405) 631-5100 Or Visit www.oknursingtimes.com!



GOLDEN AGE
NURSING FACILITY

RN MDS NURSE, RN MDS COORDINATOR and LPN'S

Golden Age Nursing Home is located in historic downtown Guthrie...just a short drive from Oklahoma City and Edmond.

Benefits: Medical · Dental · Vision Insurance · Matching 401K · PTO · Competitive Pay · \$2,000 Sign On Bonus

Apply on-line at www.companionhealth.net

140 GENERAL NURSING	140 GENERAL NURSING	140 GENERAL NURSING
<p>We Are Seeking Minimum Data Set Nurse (Licensed Practical Nurse and Registered Nurse) Needed.</p> <p>Apply at Beacon Ridge Senior Mental Health. 102 E. Line Ave. Sapulpa, OK 74067</p>	<p>Are you Reading This? So are more than 25,000 RNs & LPNs.</p> <p>We are looking to hire a Full-Time Receptionist.</p> <p>Kiamichi Medical Clinic is looking to hire a Full-Time Receptionist. Must be hard working, friendly and eager to serve the public. 204 East Jackson. Hugo, OK.</p>	<p>We are Looking To hire new staff who have a servants heart and are dependable. Openings for Certified Nursing Aides for all shifts and Certified Medication Aide for night shift.</p> <p>We offer health insurance to full time employees and shift differential for evenings and nights.</p> <p>Apply today at 915 N. 7th Ave., Purcell, OK. Sunset Estates. EOE</p>

Oklahoma's Nursing Times

CLASSIFIED RATES!

	Open	4x	12x	26x	48x
Per Line, Per Insertion	\$3.01	\$2.41	\$2.22	\$1.93	\$1.66

Classified Display: 14 lines to an inch.

Add Facebook ad Boost for \$70!

Find us and check out your ad on Facebook.
www.facebook.com/oklahomas.nursingtimes

WORLD-WIDE! YOUR AD ON OUR JOB BOARD FOR ONLY .32 EXTRA PER LINE!
www.oknursingtimes.com/jobs

Career Opportunities

FAX 405-631-5103 or CALL 405-631-5100
or email ads to advertising@okcnursingtimes.com

Oklahoma's Nursing Times



START YOUR NURSING JOURNEY WITH OU HEALTH!

We have innovative RN opportunities created by nurses, for nurses!

Travel at Home Positions

- Receive higher hourly rate in lieu of receiving benefits (unless required by law)
- Preference to candidates able to work 36 hours/week.
- Work primarily within a specific unit and float to other areas based on competencies

Weekend Positions

- Work two (2) 12 hour weekend shifts every week, get paid for three (3)!
- Eligible for applicable differentials, based on type of job
- Full-time eligibility for PTO, medical, retirement, etc.

For more information, please visit OUhealth.com/Nursing

OU Health is an equal opportunity employer

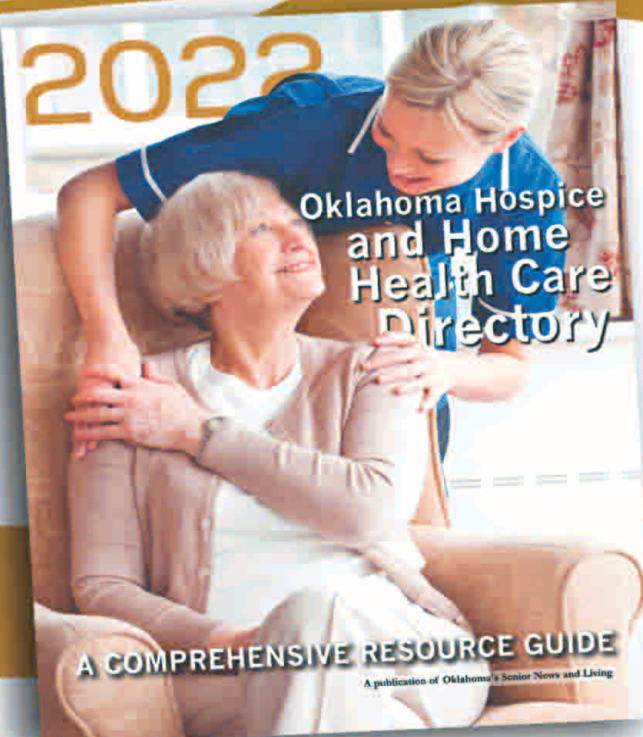
204 REGISTERED NURSE	204 REGISTERED NURSE	204 REGISTERED NURSE
<p>We are seeking Registered Nurse - Full-time Days (LTACH) at Post Acute Medical, LLC located at 3219 S 79th E Ave, Tulsa, OK 74145. In order to work at our facility, our RN's need: To hold a current license as a RN by the Board of Nurse Examiners of the State in which the facility is located. To have and maintain a current CPR and ACLS certification. *New team members will have 6 months from date of hire to obtain an ACLS certification if they do not currently have one.</p>	<p>LOOK!</p> <p>We are seeking Full-Time Night Shift Registered Nurse at Lindsay Municipal Hospital. Full-time Night Shift. LMH pays 100% medical, dental & vision insurance premiums. Only online applications are accepted. No phone calls.</p>	<p>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.</p>

Oklahoma Hospice and Home Health Care Directory

YEAR LONG
SHELF LIFE
HURRY! CALL NOW!

FULL COLOR
GLOSSY COVER MAGAZINE

A publication of Oklahoma's Senior News and Living



This Directory

is devoted to the recognition of the Hospice and Home Health Care industry while providing a convenient listing of statewide facilities. Let us assign a writer and showcase your organization!

Editorial Support for quarter page or larger!

Reserve your space today and we will assign a writer to provide a professionally written story to further enhance the advertising for your organization at no extra charge.

Don't miss your chance to be included
in this Special 2022 Edition.

ASK US ABOUT OUR HOSPICE DIRECTORY RATES & DEADLINES!

2022 Directory Advertising

Full Page	10.275" W x 13" H
Half Page	10.27" W x 6.25" H
Quarter Page	5.05" W x 6.25" H
Business Card	5.05" W x 3" H
Enhanced Listing	(Up to 8 lines)

Ad design and layout are always
a complimentary service!

FREE FULL COLOR!

Camera Ready Art: Preferred Resolution: 300 DPI or Higher | Preferred File Type: PDF, JPEG OR EPS

Let us assign a writer TODAY!

For Space Reservation, call:

Amanda Miller at (405) 631-5100 at Ext. 6

amiller@okcnursingtimes.com

Lisa Weigel at (405) 631-5100 at Ext. 3

advertising@metropublishingok.com



PUBLISHER OF:

SENIOR NEWS & LIVING

Oklahoma's
Nursing Times

NURSE TALK



If you had a super power, what would it be?



Oklahoma Heart
Hospital

I would like to be able to read minds so that I can always have the ability to assess those around me.



Jordan Rowley RN

I would like to be able to comfort everyone grieving and make things easier for family throughout their tough times.



Anjelica Newcomer RN

I would like to stop time and go back in time.



Anny Duangvilay RN

12TH ANNUAL

The Santa Market

FRIDAY & SATURDAY
NOVEMBER 19 & 20
9 AM - 4 PM

OK State Fair Park
Pavilion & Centennial Buildings

FREE ADMISSION!
FREE PARKING!

CRAFT SHOW

FREE PHOTOS WITH SANTA!

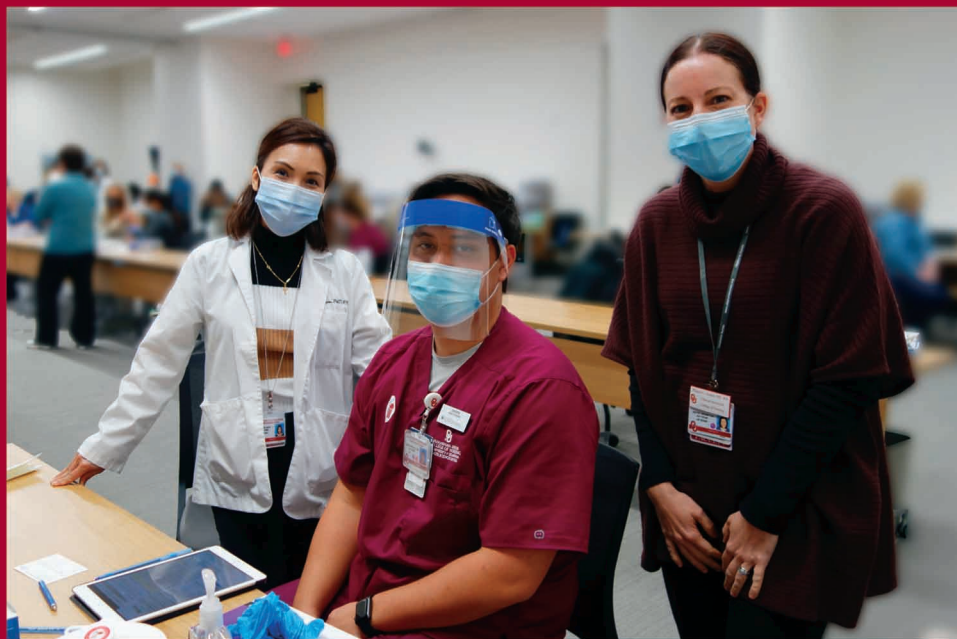
180+ VENDORS!

SOCIAL DISTANCING PROCEDURES WILL BE FOLLOWED.

For more information:
Joan Clarke (405) 314-1033
thesantamarket@gmail.com

Proceed's benefitting:
alzheimer's association

OU Nursing – Advancing Health Sooner



Highlights:

- Celebrating 110 years of nursing excellence – founded 1911
- Nationally ranked by U.S. News & World Report
- Students, faculty, and staff engaged in COVID-19 initiatives
- Advanced Practice Board Certification and NCLEX pass rates exceed state and national averages
- Clinical practice and research mentoring across Bachelor's, Master's and Doctoral programs
- PhD scholarship opportunities – up to \$150,000
- BSN-DNP: Three tracks to choose
- Interprofessional learning opportunities across all sites and academic levels
- One college, three locations: Oklahoma City, Tulsa & Lawton



FRAN AND EARL ZIEGLER
COLLEGE OF NURSING

The UNIVERSITY of OKLAHOMA HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER

To learn more visit Nursing.ouhsc.edu

The University of Oklahoma is an equal opportunity institution. www.ou.edu/eoo

(AS PUBLISHED IN THE 2021 EDUCATION GUIDE TO NURSING)

OU leading nursing renaissance

As Covid-19 threatened nursing education in 2020, the collective minds at the University of Oklahoma Fran and Earl Ziegler College of Nursing decided to use the historic event as a learning tool.

From collecting Covid-19 swabs to administering vaccinations, OU's College of Nursing found a way for students to not only learn but be a part of the solution throughout the pandemic.

"Ever since last fall I've been talking about the clinical renaissance we can be a part of in nursing," said Senior Associate Dean Melissa Craft, PhD, APRN-CNS, AOCN, FAAN. "After the last great plague in the Middle Ages, there was a renaissance. My point all along has been how best to positively use this experience for the betterment of patients and for us as nurses."

The focus has not only been on students simply emerging from the pandemic but flourishing, armed with experience and a new set of skills.

From a nursing education standpoint, the pandemic has taught a number of lessons.

"Going back to Florence Nightingale, formalized nursing was birthed because of a war and nurses' responses in stepping into that situation," said Craft. "Florence Nightingale was a scientist, she was an advocate for social justice, a leader in healthcare management, and at the core, she was dedicated to individual flourishing."

"To me (what the pandemic) has taught us as a college is what we do as nurses is infinitely needed. What the pandemic has taught everyone is the knowledge and skill of nursing as scientists, as advocates, as leaders in healthcare management, and at their core, dedicated to human flourishing is incredibly essential in our society."

The pandemic not only validated to Craft that what is currently being done to prepare nurses for their profession needs to continue, but it also allowed introspection and an opportunity to revisit if the profession is doing everything it can as a science and advocate for social justice.

The pandemic also served to further highlight the underlying disparities in our healthcare system.

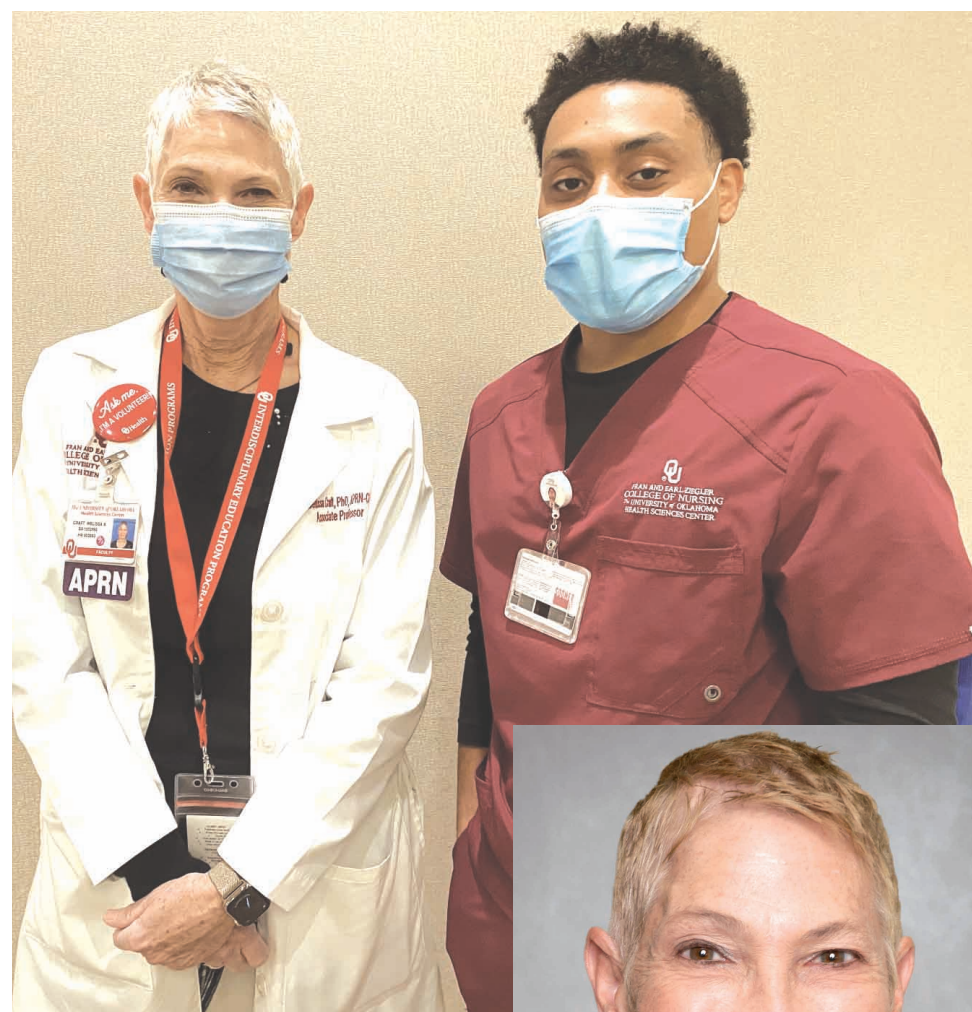
"As nurses, as nursing students, and as a college we can't be blind to that," Craft said. "We really have to look at it as an opportunity. Again it's the renaissance which was all about going back into learning, wisdom, discovery and exploration."

As in-person nursing education ground to a halt around the country, the OU College of Nursing sought out opportunities to engage students and help them learn during these unprecedented times.

One of those opportunities came out of the Swab Pods, where students staffed Covid-19 testing stations in Oklahoma City and Tulsa.

The students loved it, especially in a time where they were taken out of face-to-face classroom and the clinical learning settings.

"The core of what nurses do is they lean into situations," Craft said. "It's like firefighters run into a burning building, nurses run into taking care of people. When we started looking at (the swab pods) it was clinical, it was community and reaching out to where our community needs us. It was sort of a rethinking of what it does mean to do clinical work. It doesn't all have to happen in an acute care setting. In fact, we need to recognize that "the majority of patients' lives don't occur in an acute-care setting." Therefore we need to be where



Dr. Melissa Craft and OU student Romalace Jenkins serve at a community vaccination clinic.

the patients are and our students need to learn where the patients are.

The university also leveraged its partnerships with OU Health as well as the Oklahoma City County Health Department and the Oklahoma City VA Health Care System to identify other student learning opportunities.

"What we've done as a college is to look at every opportunity not to continue what we've always



Dr. Melissa Craft is helping lead the OU College of Nursing's education renaissance.

done but ascertain what the OU College of Nursing can do now to make a difference," she said.

For more information visit: <https://nursing.ouhsc.edu/>



FRAN AND EARL ZIEGLER
COLLEGE OF NURSING

The UNIVERSITY of OKLAHOMA HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER

Medicare Advantage plans like Humana Honor may complement VA benefits—did you know?



This plan may complement your VA benefits—and may save you money

And, you may save on medical costs while enjoying:

- Part B premium reduction for \$50 more in Social Security each month
- Dental, hearing and vision coverage
- Worldwide emergency coverage
- \$50 over-the-counter allowance every three months**
- \$0 copay for SilverSneakers® fitness program



Stop by and speak to a licensed independent sales agent in OKLAHOMA CITY

Steven Sibley, E7 RET/DAV

405-850-1569 (TTY: 711)

Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

ssibleyinsures@gmail.com

sibleyinsures.com

Humana

A more human way to healthcare™

*Eligible veterans may choose any Humana Medicare Advantage plan, however Humana Honor® Medicare Advantage plan does not include prescription drug coverage which helps avoid possible conflicts with VA prescription drug benefits. Humana Honor plans are available to anyone eligible for Medicare.

**Available only through participating retailers and Humana's mail-order pharmacy, Humana Pharmacy®; always consult with your doctor or medical provider before taking over-the-counter medications.

USAA and the USAA Logo are registered trademarks of the United Services Automobile Association. All rights reserved. USAA means United Services Automobile Association and its affiliates. Use of the term "USAA member" or "USAA membership" refers to membership in USAA Membership Services and does not convey any legal or ownership rights in USAA. Restrictions apply and are subject to change.

Humana is a Medicare Advantage HMO, PPO and PFFS organization with a Medicare contract. Enrollment in any Humana plan depends on contract renewal. Applicable to Humana Honor (PPO). For a complete list of available plans please contact 1-800-MEDICARE (TTY users should call 1-877-486-2048), 24 hours a day/7 days a week or consult www.medicare.gov. **At Humana, it is important you are treated fairly.** Humana Inc. and its subsidiaries comply with applicable Federal Civil Rights laws and do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, ancestry, marital status or religion. English: ATTENTION: If you do not speak English, language assistance services, free of charge, are available to you. Call **1-877-320-1235** (TTY: 711). **Español (Spanish):** ATENCIÓN: Si habla español, tiene a su disposición servicios gratuitos de asistencia lingüística. Llame al **1-877-320-1235** (TTY: 711). **繁體中文 (Chinese):** 注意：如果需要使用繁體中文，可以免費獲得語言援助服務。請致電 **1-877-320-1235** (TTY: 711)。

Y0040_GHHHCXVTE_22_AD_M

H5216-140-000-2022

SITUATION UPDATE: COVID-19

COVID-19 Cases:	645,352
New Cases Today	System Change Over 0
Sunday New Cases	668
Saturday New Cases	706
New Cases 7 day Average (As of 10/31/21)	680
Active Cases	6,427
CDC/NCHS Provisional Deaths	11,384
Acute Care OSDH Licensed Facilities/Location**	Recent 3 day Ave. Hospitalizations
	Cases (ICU)
Region 1 (NW)	22 (8)
Region 2 (NE)	42 (13)
Region 3 (SW)	42 (14)
Region 4 (EC)	27 (11)
Region 5 (SE)	16 (3)
Region 6 (Central)	34 (13)
Region 7 (Tulsa)	142 (48)
Region 8 (OKC)	122 (40)
Total	447* (150)
Other Types of Facilities	
Focus Facilities	10 (6)
Other Types of Facilities	
Focus Facilities	10 (6)
Rehabilitation Facilities	1 (0)
Tribal Facilities	13 (4)
Other Facilities Total	24 (10)

*Includes 17 hospitalizations in pediatric beds.

**Focus, Rehabilitation and Tribal Facilities numbers are not assigned to a specific region as their patient populations reside across the state. Information provided through survey of Oklahoma hospitals as reported to HHS as of the time of this report. Response rate affects data. Facilities may update previously reported information as necessary.

Data Source: Acute Disease Service, Oklahoma State Department of Health. *As of 2021-11-01 at 7:00 a.m.

The Dozenth Santa Market Craft Show Arrives



Organizers Joan Clarke, Molly and Megan Nye posed for their free photos with Santa Claus last year at the Santa Market Craft Show.

Story by Darl Devault, Contributing Editor

The Santa Market Craft Show November 19-20 at State Fair Park has evolved the last dozen years into Oklahoma City's premiere free two-day showcase for Christmas themed creations, benefiting the Alzheimer's Association of Oklahoma.

As one of Oklahoma's largest free nonprofit arts and craft shows, the 12th annual festive shopping experience will fill the Pavilion and Centennial Buildings with more than 180 carefully chosen creative vendors. It features free admission, free parking, a silent auction and more from 9 to 4

Friday and Saturday.

Visitors are encouraged to bring their children to get their free photos taken with Santa Claus at Oklahoma City's most prestigious Christmas market each year.

Shoppers are treated to a variety of home decor, homemade arts and crafts, boutique and holiday items, jewelry, children's clothes, and food goodies. Free shopping bags sponsored by local businesses will be given to the first 1,000 visitors.

Joan Clarke, along with Molly and Megan Nye began the event in

2010 after Joan's husband died of Alzheimer's in 2007. It has been a labor of love attracting many volunteers to help showcase the wares of the many high-quality vendors, who see it as an opportunity to support a local charity addressing one of America's most difficult diseases.

"Molly and I had been selling items at craft shows for years and we decided to start our own event. We booked a small room in a hotel and started out with 17 vendors," Clark said. "By the time our third year began, we realized how much work putting on a quality show involves, so we decided to make it a fundraiser. Molly immediately suggested Alzheimer's since I lost my husband to the terrible disease."

"Our excellent vendors are what make this show what it is each year. We are one big family, everyone helps promote the show, advertise, and find new merchants. They donate to our cause, both monetarily and with their products, even though it's totally voluntary," Clark said. "They help with set up, clean up and everything in between. We have 3 vendors that have been with us all 12 years. Countless more that have been with us 5, 8, even 10 years. One vendor named it 'The Greatest Show on Earth' and it truly is."

Even while spreading out over two buildings now, the organizers limit the number of crafters assigned space. Clarke says It is not about turning away new vendors, it is about only allowing a limited number of each type of vendor. They wish they could take everyone, but having a variety makes for a much better shopping experience and the merchants have a much better chance of success.

The event is now at the point where longtime merchants who display

clamor to be back each year. This means the shoppers have high quality choices because the theme of the show is providing the highest quality Christmas theme material for their customers.

Clarke says some of the merchants see the event as an opportunity to make sure one of their favorite charities receive as much as possible from their craft world and from them personally.

Vendors write personal checks to the Alzheimer's Association when the Santa Market rolls around, Clarke said. They also donate some of their hand-painted ornaments, clothing, pet items, artwork, wood working, signs, candles and more to the Alzheimer's auction and Alzheimer's booth at the event.

The 12th year means the Santa Market folks also supported the annual Alzheimer's Association Walk to End Alzheimer's which occurred October 23 in downtown OKC. The Santa Market fielded a team for the walk, captained by Janie Biggs, with 11 members this year who raised \$8,512 by the day of the walk.

Taking place many different dates and locations, it is the world's largest event to raise awareness and funds for Alzheimer's care, support and research. The Walk in OKC was one of the top 30 in the nation in 2020.

"We are so grateful to the Clarke and Nye families who have used their creativity and passion to end Alzheimer's to create such an amazing craft event," said Jessica N. Hogner, OKC Alzheimer's Walk Manager. "The Santa Market is not only responsible for raising more than \$177,000 these last 11 years, but also helping spread awareness about Alzheimer's Disease and the free services the Alzheimer's Association provides."

MUSTANG TAX SERVICE

45 W Armstrong Dr. Ste A, Mustang, OK 73064

• Bookkeeping • Payroll
• Personal & Business Tax Return

BRING IN THIS COUPON FOR

25% OFF NEW CUSTOMER DISCOUNT

(405) 376-5456 | mustangtax@aol.com



LIFE IS A GIFT

Pass it on.

Sadly, for many in our community, life can quickly feel like less of a gift and more of a burden. That's why United Way of Central Oklahoma is here, to connect community resources with responsive and accountable health and human services agencies. Through us, your gifts truly make a difference. We respectfully ask that you contribute to our 2021 Give Campaign – and help us pass it on.



unitedwayokc.org