



ASBN

Volume 11 Number 5 September 2007

# Update

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*The mission of the Arkansas State Board of Nursing is to protect the public and act as their advocate by effectively regulating the practice of nursing.*

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**ABOUT THE COVER:** Kathey Haynie, BSN, Bryant High School nurse and President of the Arkansas School Nurses Association, is joined by various students from the Bryant School District that need her care during the school year.



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## CHANGE IS GOOD

I know that I must be getting old when eight years can go by this quickly! It's amazing how

much I didn't know when I was appointed to the Board. I had never even been to a meeting, and there wasn't a website "way back then". I received a letter from the Governor one day, a three inch thick agenda and an orientation the next, and the next day it was showtime.

I met Karen Buchanan, Board President at that time, in the elevator on the way to the meeting. She gave me the best piece of advice that I ever received regarding the Board. "We're not looking for a consensus. We're not the kind of board that expects every vote to be unanimous. You vote how you feel, and that way, you feel good regardless of the outcome of the case."

I soon met the rest of the Board and I was impressed with its makeup. I thought it would be 14 "nurse bureaucrats" and me. It was a pleasant surprise to learn that all of the nurses on the Board were, in fact, "real nurses". There was also a wide variety of educational level and practice areas. Even better, there were two other "newbies". I was starting to feel better about this until about 200 students filed in to watch us meet. And if that wasn't bad enough, I soon learned that during our deliberations, not only did the students stay and listen, so did the nurse whose case we were hearing! And that "vote how you feel" thing became a little less liberating when I learned that I had to vote how I

felt by raising my hand in front of a couple of hundred people.

I had a headache by then end of the day. I also had one at the end of the next day – an even worse one. One thing I learned in those first two meetings, however, was that it was not O.K. to treat my headache with my wife's Darvocet, my brother's Percocet, or my mother's morphine – even "just that one time", as so many nurses during those two days had claimed. Instead, I settled for single dose clearly labeled packets of ibuprophen which I took with me to every meeting (and needed) for the first six months.

Before long, though, I was getting the hang of it. Of course, "it" kept changing, so there was always more to learn, but that isn't anything new to nurses. In contrast to many of my nursing colleagues, I think that change is usually good, so I was often the one responsible for my having to get the hang of a new "it".

Some of the changes that we made were forced upon us by new legislation, such as the law requiring criminal background checks prior to licensure. Others came through circumstances - as more nurses were tested for drug use, there were more nurses testing positive. Together, just these two changes greatly increased our case load, which required major changes in our methods to prevent a backlog in the system. Technology soon made it easy to disseminate the actions taken by the Board through our website. (Later, this magazine was born out of an effort to communicate with all nurses in Arkansas.) Unfortunately, technology also made it

easier to forge licenses, so we used some of our own technology to make it easy for employers to verify licensure. 9/11 and Katrina highlighted the importance of the Interstate Nurse Compact, of which Arkansas was an early member.

When I say that "we" changed things, I'm not just talking about the Board. In fact, we just came up with what we thought were great ideas, and the Board Staff did the work that made it actually happen. And they did it really well.

Board Members are limited to two four year terms, so in the last eight years, every position has been replaced at least once. Throughout these years though, the commitment to our mission of public protection has remained steadfast, even as the makeup of the Board has changed. We've also maintained our collegial approach to business and discipline. We are still not unanimous in most of our decisions, but we continue to leave on excellent terms, knowing that we voted how we felt.

Now it's time for another change. My two terms will be up by the time you read this. I don't yet know who the next President will be, but I can assure you he/she will be a good one. Unlike most elections, any of the candidates would be an outstanding President.

Neither do I know who will replace me on the Board. It could be one of you. To see if you are qualified, check out the Nurse Practice Act at [http://www.arsbn.org/pdfs/practice\\_act/chap2.pdf](http://www.arsbn.org/pdfs/practice_act/chap2.pdf). Of course, it would involve change, but remember, change is good!

# Important Information

## OFFICE LOCATION / TELEPHONE NUMBERS / OFFICE HOURS

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## LOST OR STOLEN LICENSE

A listing of all lost or stolen licenses can be found at [www.arsbn.org](http://www.arsbn.org). All reissued licenses will have "DUPLICATE LICENSE" stamped on them. Employers are urged to inspect the original license from a job applicant and verify the nurse's identity with a photo ID.

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## PASS IT ON...

How do you feel about the board of nursing? When you think of the board (if you ever do), what comes to mind? Do you see us as the state government office that issues licenses? Are we just the place that gives the licensure examination, fondly referred to as "the state boards"? In your eyes, do we deal only with education programs or nursing practice issues or discipline? Well really we do all of those things and more.

Sometimes people get the board of nursing mixed up with the nurse's association. That's something we are not. The nursing associations are there to support and protect nurses. The Board of Nursing's mission is to protect the public. We protect the public in a number of ways: through giving the NCLEX®, criminal background checks, issuing licenses, endorsement from other states, inspecting nursing education programs, disciplining nurses who violate the *Nurse Practice Act* or *ASBN Rules*, defining the scope of practice, providing continuing education, issuing position statements, developing guidelines, monitoring nurses who have an encumbrance on their license, and answering questions from consumers. That list doesn't even cover all that we do. So, if you ever wonder how your licensure fees are spent, just pull this article out and re-read it!

A nurse called recently and asked, "What do my dues go for?" Well, your licensure fees are not "dues." They are literally a kind of tax that is charged to you to make protection of the public possible. The funds are deposited in the state treasury into an account specifically designated for the board of nursing. In accordance with the state constitution, the funds may not be spent by any other state government agency or for any other purpose than to operate the board of nursing. Each legislative session, a bill is passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives and is signed by the Governor to give the board authority to spend a portion of the funds col-

lected. Staff members give an account to the Board Members for everything that is spent at each business meeting. We are using your money wisely!

Although a significant amount of our time and resources are spent in conducting investigations and discipline, this comprises only a very small percentage of Arkansas nurses. Although we audit nurses to determine whether you are completing your continuing education, most nurses have complied with the requirements. The majority of the nursing education programs have few or no deficiencies. Quite a few programs have higher than the national average pass rate on the licensure exam. We were the second state in the U.S. to pass legislation to implement the interstate compact on nurse licensure. We received the Member Board award from the National Council of State Boards of Nursing for achievements in regulation and the Governor's Award for leadership and advancements in information technology.

We were the second state in the U.S. to implement online renewals. Now we are working on moving all of our initial applications for licensure to an online format. For all those who are scheduled to renew a license beginning in October of this year, you will receive a card in the mail asking you to go online and renew your license. You can access a computer at most local libraries and should ask your employer to make a computer with Web access available also. It's really easy to do and takes very little time. You need to have your continuing education information available when you get online.

So the next time you think about the board of nursing, I hope that you see the agency as a progressive, hard working group of professionals who do our best to protect the citizens of this great state. Please pass the word...

*Faith A. Fields*  
Faith A. Fields, MSN, RN

# Board Business

## BOARD MEETING DATES FOR 2007



Left to right top row: Lori Eakin, LPN; Pamela Crowson, RN; Clevesta Flanigan, LPN; Darlene Byrd, APN; Cassandra Harvey, RN; Frank Fusco, Peggy Morgan, LPN. Front row: Stephanie Rockett, RN; Dan West, RN; Lepaine McHenry, RN; Kathy Hicks, RN. Board member not pictured: Greg Evans, RN

September 12	Disciplinary
September 13	Business
November 14	Disciplinary
November 15	Disciplinary
December	No Meetings Scheduled

The public is invited to attend ASBN Meetings. Groups of more than five should call and ask for Carmen Sebastino at 501.686.2701

## 2007 SUMMER CEREAL DRIVE

ARKANSAS CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL COMES OUT ON TOP OF ALL THE OTHER HOSPITALS IN THIS YEAR'S SUMMER CEREAL DRIVE PUT ON BY KTHV. PICTURED WITH KTHV METEOROLOGIST TOM BRANNON ARE ARKANSAS CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL NURSES: MELEAH LANGFORD, RN, KAMI CHESSER, RN AND CANDICE HELTZ, RN. THE CEREAL BOXES COLLECTED BENEFIT THE ARKANSAS FOODBANK NETWORK.



Divisions	Total #s		
5 Arkansas Children's Hospital	<b>6688</b>	5 Central Arkansas Veterans Healthcare System	<b>2259</b>
4 Southwest Regional Medical Center	<b>3525</b>	5 St. Vincent Health System	<b>701</b>
4 Cardinal Health	<b>2800</b>	5 Arkansas Heart Hospital	<b>401</b>
		4 St. Vincent Doctor's Hospital	<b>177</b>



**by Ruthanne Murphy, JD, RN**  
Nurse Attorney

## THE ARKANSAS NURSE PRACTICE ACT

The nurses of Arkansas have recently been given a gift by their Board of Nursing. There is a new Continuing Education opportunity that helps the nurse understand what is required as a licensed nurse in this state. The course is offered at [www.learningext.com](http://www.learningext.com) and is appropriately named, "The Arkansas Nurse Practice Act". The cost is \$12.00 to take the course online and is worth two (2) hours of continuing education. I would recommend anyone practicing nursing in this state to take this course and get up to speed on the requirements for a professional nurse.

Not all nurses understand that there is specific legislation that enables the Board of Nursing to govern their own. The legislature doesn't have the time or the expertise to oversee all licensed nurses in Arkansas. They have

addressed this by passing "The Arkansas Nurse Practice Act" at A.C.A. § 17-87-101. In this legislation, you can find exactly what a nurse with your type of license is allowed to do, what things they are not allowed to do and what can happen to you as a nurse if you fail to follow the regulations. The Board of Nursing is set up under this Act, specifying how many members should be on the Board and what requirements must be met to be a member of the Board, plus how long each member may serve.

A.C.A. §17-87-309 outlines the areas that a nurse may be subject to be disciplined by the Board of Nursing. The Board may investigate any nurse who holds a nursing license or has applied for a nursing license in this state. Did you know that your license could be put on proba-

### **NCSBN** BEGINS TESTING IN MANILA

CHICAGO - The National Council of State Boards of Nursing, Inc. (NCSBN) will begin NCLEX testing in Manila, the capital city of the Philippines, at the international Pearson Professional Center on Aug. 23, 2007. Scheduling for examination appointments will begin on July 13, 2007.

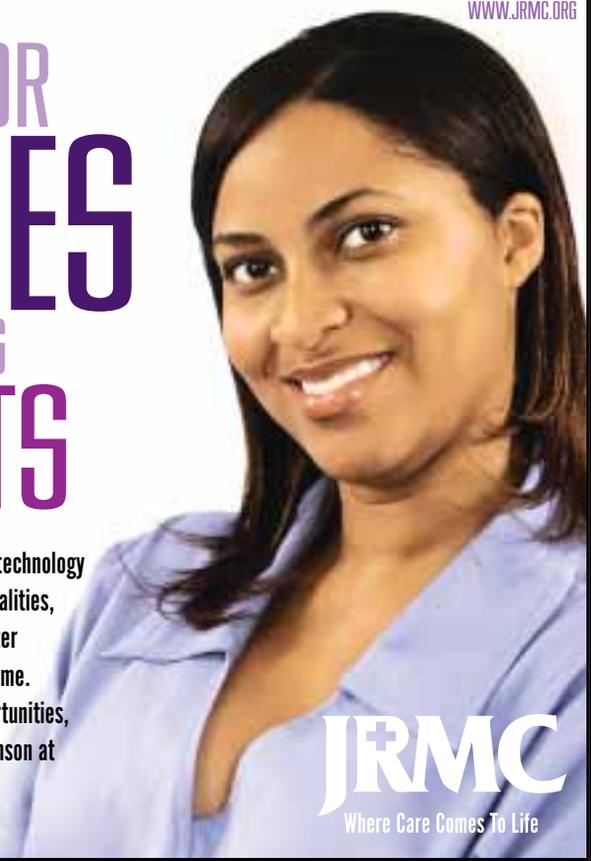
The Manila site was chosen in February by the NCSBN Board of Directors because of the deep commitment shown by the Philippine government to ensuring a secure test center. The placement of a test site in the Philippines will allow for greater customer service to nurses without compromising the goal of safeguarding the public health, safety and welfare of patients in the U.S.

## CARING FOR NURSES AS WELL AS PATIENTS

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For more information on nursing opportunities, contact nurse recruiter Debbie Robinson at

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tion for taking a Darvocet belonging to your Mother, your husband or a friend? A professional nurse knows he/she may not take any medication except that which is specifically ordered by a health care professional for that nurse to take. Part of being a professional is thinking through your actions before you act. Sometimes I think that nurses are so use to giving medications to their patients, that they believe they can self-medicate. This is not an acceptable excuse and if you do this, there is a good chance you will be caught and if reported to the Board for this indiscretion, you will be disciplined.

We, as nurses, have never had all of this spelled out so easily for us before, as is done by this Continuing Education opportunity. It details the steps to renewing your license, including how many contact hours are required and on what subject. The Act also tells you that you may receive



discipline for not completing your Continuing Education or falsifying your answers on the renewal application.

The Arkansas *Nurse Practice Act* and the Arkansas State Board of Nursing *Rules* are available at [www.arsbn.org](http://www.arsbn.org) Just as in a court of law, a mistake is not an acceptable defense to violation of the *Nurse Practice Act*. You, as a nurse, have an obligation to read and understand these requirements, then adhere to them.

If you do, you won't be finding your self under investigation by the Board staff, nor will you find yourself at a public hearing in front of the Board.

Many nurses didn't have the opportunity to learn these requirements in their nursing programs, but that doesn't excuse you from knowing what is required. Take this new opportunity to educate yourself, protect yourself and your patients. Knowledge is power, use it to protect yourself.



**It's All About Care...**

**It is who we are and what we do.**

Our patient care is our emphasis. Each day, each shift, we know that the care we provide is the most important service we offer to each patient, family member, and visitor. We are one team with one vision and one focus. It ranges from our CEO to our CNA's. Since you have chosen healthcare for your life's calling, you understand and share that mission. We are seeking skilled, dedicated, caring individuals to join our team.

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FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO SUBMIT RESUME, PLEASE CONTACT US AT:

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# *a more satisfying career . . .*

## *Respect*

You worked hard for your nursing credentials. Isn't it time you were respected for them? When you walk into the patient's home, you get that respect. You are the expert, the professional they trust and have been waiting for. It is an entirely different atmosphere than what nurses experience inside a hospital or other institution.

## *Appreciation*

Do you miss being appreciated? At a patient's home, they are glad you came. You not only assess, treat and teach, but you also answer their questions, calm their fears, and reassure them. And doctors really appreciate your professional judgement and your reports on their patients' condition.

## *Independence*

Tired of being confined inside all day long? Instead, breathe the fresh air, as you work all across your community. From the patients' homes and from your office, you'll be working with doctors, hospitals, pharmacists, equipment suppliers, families and patients – concentrating upon one patient at a time.



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Want to matter? It's a great feeling to know that you have made it possible for someone to be at home near the comfort of their loved ones. Whether they are recovering from a serious illness, are suffering from a terminal illness, have become frail, or are experiencing a high-risk pregnancy, your professional care and guidance can make the difference.

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# ASBN HOT CHECK NOTICE

The following names appear on the ASBN records for checks returned to the ASBN due to insufficient funds. If practicing in Arkansas, they may be in violation of the Nurse Practice Act and could be subject to disciplinary action by the Board. Please contact Darla Erickson at 501.686.2705 if any are employed in your facility.

Bradley, Rosa Marie	L16658	Shaheed, Nathan	T01220
Gonzalez, Jessica	Exam Application	Shupert, Angela	L37543
McKee-Murphy, Bobbie	L14764	Sivils, June Elizabeth	L30290
Mulhernin, James	L28486	Williams, Della	L28175
Sanders, Amber	R73529	Williams, Sally F.	L26287

by Darla Erickson, CPA  
DIRECTOR OF ACCOUNTING



## POSTCARDS AND PAYMENTS

The new process is in place. People with a license expiration date of October 31, 2007 will be the first group to receive postcard reminders instead of paper renewal forms. The postcards (reminding you to go online to renew your license) will be mailed **60 days prior** to your expiration date. Please do not disregard the postcard as this is the only method of notification you will receive.

There are also more payment options now available to you when you renew your license. The option of paying by Visa, MasterCard or American Express has been available for some time. Now you also have the option of paying by e-check. You just need your checkbook with you when you renew to enter your payment information. The amount will be deducted from your checking account. It's that simple. If using your credit card or your check to make a payment online has you uneasy, buy yourself a Visa, MasterCard or American Express "gift card" and renew your license with it. If you decide to use this method, be sure to add enough to the card to cover any fees the credit card company may charge.

With the postcards and new payment options, it is easier than ever to renew online. The online renewals have been available for some time, and many people have been taking advantage of this option. It is easy, convenient, and faster than the former method of paper renewal. If you do not have a computer at home, many places of employment will allow you to renew at work, or there is always the local library. We are working hard to make this an easy transition, and hope you will enjoy the benefits of online renewal.

## A continuing education opportunity for nurses.

Join us Friday, October 19th for the 8th Annual Perinatal and Women's Health Conference, sponsored by Conway Regional Health System and the University of Central Arkansas.

**Friday, October 19th, 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.**  
**Brewer-Hegeman Conference Center**  
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Conference registration fee \$75, all materials and meals included.  
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**Alana Roush, RTS Trainer**

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incarcerated if you are convicted, pled guilty, or nolo contendere to the charge. On the other hand, traffic violations such as speeding, failure to stop, parking tickets, etc. need not be reported.

As with all criminal pleas and convictions, if your DWI conviction has been sealed or expunged by a Court or pardoned by the Governor, then you must provide evidence of such to the Board. As a general rule, a single DWI will not prevent someone from renewing their license or being licensed as a nurse. However, failure to answer the criminal history question correctly may result in you being charged with violating Ark. Code Ann. § 17-87-309(a)(1), in that you may be guilty of fraud or deceit in procuring or attempting to procure a nursing license in Arkansas. This violation could have far greater consequences for the applicant than the actual DWI charge.

*The bedrock of nursing is honesty. Being honest on the front end is the best policy!*

Whether you are a first-time applicant seeking licensure as a nurse or a licensed nurse renewing your license, each Arkansas applicant must correctly answer the criminal background question. Most applicants understand and correctly answer the question, "Have you been convicted of a misdemeanor or felony, pled guilty, or nolo contendere to any charge in any state or jurisdiction?" However, there still seems to be a great deal of confusion involving a Driving While Intoxicated (DWI) conviction and the reporting of it to the Board. All DWIs, pleas, and convictions must be reported to the Board. It's just that simple. A DWI is a crime in that you can be assessed a fine and

## COMMUNICATING WITH ARKANSAS STATE BOARD OF NURSING

The Arkansas State Board of Nursing requests that licensees and the public utilize the board website at [www.arsbn.org](http://www.arsbn.org) for all your information needs. If you are unable to have your question answered by reviewing the information provided on our webpage, we have compiled a list of helpful contacts for specific questions you may have.

### QUESTIONS ABOUT

License Verification  
Exams/Endorsements  
Discipline issues Controlled substance issues  
Continuing Education Medication Assistant  
Advance Practice Licensing  
Disciplinary Issues Scope of Nursing Practice  
ASBN Update magazine Press Releases Media Contact  
Advance Practice Nursing Medication Assistant  
FOI Requests  
License Renewal Lost/Stolen License Address/Name Change  
Criminal Background Checks  
Roster Download Technical Difficulties with website,  
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Nurse Licensure Compact

### CONTACT

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# SCHOOL NURSES: TRUE ANGELS TO THE CHILDREN OF ARKANSAS

**D**iabetes, obesity, ADHD and mental health issues are a few of the conditions that are commonly seen these days in the public school system. Kathey Haynie BSN, who is the president of the Arkansas School Nurses Association and also serves as the school nurse at Bryant High School says, “These problems are new compared to what we dealt with 20 years ago and it doesn’t stop there. We care for children in wheelchairs and those on feeding tubes that are mainstreamed into the public school system. These children need constant care.”

Recently, the School Nurse practice guidelines revision task force met at the Arkansas State Board of Nursing to discuss the guidelines followed by nurses that are employed by school districts in the state. I had the pleasure of listening to several of the nurses voice their concerns, attitudes and passions about what roles that they serve in our schools. The words “decision maker, problem solver and counsel” come to mind when it comes to what role nurses serve in Arkansas schools. Originally, school nurses were initiated to decrease the absenteeism rate due to communicable disease in 1902. Over 100 years later, this is not the only critical issue that schools face. As technology has improved, stu-



The School Nurse practice guidelines revision task force gathered in the ASBN Board Room to discuss the role of school nurses.

**WE CARE FOR CHILDREN IN WHEELCHAIRS AND THOSE ON FEEDING TUBES THAT ARE MAINSTREAMED INTO THE PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM. THESE CHILDREN NEED CONSTANT CARE.**

dents continue to be absent for communicable diseases and are also absent for management of chronic disease. Increased social and psychological needs also affect their ability to learn.

One of the toughest challenges is educating school administrators on the importance of the role of a nurse in

the public school system. The challenge of overcoming the stereotype of someone that just puts bandages on students is a difficult concept to convey to highly educated administrators. Those that do not have a medical background cannot imagine what numerous tasks the nurse is responsible for undertaking with a school full of children, faculty, administrators and bus drivers, not to mention if they are responsible for more than one school in a district. The role of school nurse has evolved to accompany emotional/mental health problems, acute care and diabetes care. The Health Department serves as a resource for children in Arkansas, but not a service. Nurses can educate school chil-

**Vicky Morris,**  
Public Information Specialist



dren and their families about the resources available through the state, but whether the families that need the resources are actually utilizing them is a different story. Many times this can cause extra work for already overloaded nurses in the school district.

So, you may wonder why are these nurses overloaded and why do they keep coming back for more? The answer is simply the love of serving the needs of children. State Representative Sandra Prater RN says, "The kids in Arkansas depend on school nurses a whole lot more than people realize, because sometimes the school nurse is the only form of medical care that some children receive." As of now, school districts are limited on funds that are available to staff school nurses. There is a matrix system that has one school nurse per 750 children and Prater says that she would love to see that number be decreased to 1 to every 500 children. The school nurse plays a vital role in being an educator of healthy activities and a "go to person" for children that come from problematic home environments.

An interesting fact is that the scope of practice for school nurses is considered to be greater than any other nursing sub specialty. The ones that dedicate themselves to this career not only make a difference in a child's life, but also reap the benefits of a nice work schedule. For more information about ASBN school nurse guidelines, go to [www.arsbn.org](http://www.arsbn.org)

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# ATTENTION:

## ADVANCED PRACTICE NURSES WITH PRESCRIPTIVE AUTHORITY

New Federal Law Regarding Written Prescriptions for Medicaid Patients

The Federal U.S. Troop Readiness, Veteran's Care, Katrina Recovery, and Iraq Accountability Appropriations Act of 2007 provides that effective October 1, 2007, federal Medicaid funding shall not be available for any amounts expended for prescription drugs for which the prescription was executed in written (and non-electronic) form unless the prescription was executed on a tamper-resistant pad.

What are "tamper-resistant" prescription pads? Unfortunately, the law does not define standards for this type of prescription pad. There are companies that advertise that they sell "tamper-

resistant" pads and these prescription pads would have to meet the law, until someone defines the expectations of the law. The Arkansas Board of Pharmacy and the Arkansas Department of Human Services, Division of Medical Services have not defined "tamper-resistant". They have been contacted by our office for clarification and they also do not have any additional information.

There are also rumors that amendments are being introduced that would require "tamper-resistant" pads only for controlled substances. This has not happened as of the writing of this arti-

cle. At present, this law is for ALL Medicaid prescriptions that are written.

If you did not get the email we sent to APNs with Prescriptive Authority about this issue, you are not on our Listserv. Please call Bernice Gunter, at 501-686-2706 or email her at [bcgunter@arsbn.org](mailto:bcgunter@arsbn.org) with your email address. We will keep you informed of updated information as we get it through the APN Listserv (email) and on the home page of our website ([www.arsbn.org](http://www.arsbn.org)) and through the ASBN Update. If you have questions, contact Dr. Jackie Murphree at 501-686-2725 or [jmurphree@arsbn.org](mailto:jmurphree@arsbn.org).

by Jackie Murphree, EdD, MNsc, LNC



## MEDICATION ASSISTANTS-CERTIFIED (MAC'S) HAVE ARRIVED!

The first group of eight students has completed the training program for medication assistants at East Arkansas Community College in Forrest City in late May. They took the online certification examination in June and seven out of the eight passed the exam, for a passing rate of 87 percent for the school. These students came from several towns in the geographic area, including Forrest City, Wynne, Hughes, Stuttgart, Helena-West Helena, and Holly Grove. With the exception of one student, they were all employees of the Crestpark nursing home chain in eastern Arkansas, and they will be working in those homes as a medication assistant under the supervi-

sion of the nurses.

Five students just completed the training program at Southeast Arkansas College (SEARK) at Pine Bluff. They will be taking the certification examination shortly.

The Board, at the June 14th Board meeting, approved the medication assistant training program at Texarkana Community College for Arkansas students, as we do not have a program in the southwest part of the state. The students will be educated at the Texas school, but will take the certification examination for Arkansas certification. Nine Arkansas students started the program on July 9th and will complete in



early October

The Board also endorsed the first medication assistant from the state of Texas at the June Board meeting. The law allows the board to issue certification to an applicant who has been licensed or certified as a medication assistant under the laws of another state, if the applicant meets the qualifications of medication assistants in Arkansas.

# ATTENTION

## DID YOU KNOW?

Licensed Practical Nurses' ALPNA (Arkansas Licensed Practical Nurses' Association) is 60 YEARS OLD and still going and growing? At the 59th Annual Fall Convention we had over 600 in attendance and received 8 CEUs.



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- **ALPNA** has offered continuing education for 60 years.
- **ALPNA** is a member of NAPNES and they are our accrediting agency for CEUs
- **ALPNA** sponsors two conventions a year, one in the Spring and our Annual Fall Convention.
- **ALPNA** is vigilant to keep the LPN as a viable member of the health team.
- **ALPNA** has memberships for students, LPNs and RNs. (see web site for membership application).

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Licensure Compact (NLC) party state.

NLC home jurisdiction (declared primary state of residency) is defined as the state that issued the license and NLC party (remote) state is defined as the state where an individual may work on privilege to practice emanating from license acquired by a licensee in their home jurisdiction.

Nursys® is the only nurse licensure database that contains all privilege discipline action by NLC party states against an individual. For example: If the Virginia Board of Nursing took a privilege action prohibiting an individual holding an Arkansas compact

license to work in Virginia; this privilege discipline is not recorded in the Arkansas Board of Nursing database but is recorded in Nursys® by the Virginia Board of Nursing. If an employer in Virginia checked the Arkansas Board of Nursing's database to verify this nurse's Arkansas compact license, they will not get confirmation of privilege discipline action taken by Virginia and thus could potentially hire the nurse. If the employer in Virginia checked Nursys to verify the nurse's Arkansas compact license, then this privilege discipline information would be available to them, thus allowing the employers to make an informed decision and ultimately safeguard the public.

Image 1 to the left is an example of verification of a compact license issued by Arkansas. This nurse has no discipline action taken against his license and no privilege to practice discipline taken by any other NLC state.

Next is an example of the above with discipline action taken by home state of Arkansas against its Compact License. (See Image 2.)

Another example listed left (Image 3) is where two NLC states (Mississippi and South Carolina) have taken privilege action against this individual, which prohibits this person from working in Mississippi and South Carolina.

The above example illustrates that it is possible that even though South Carolina and Mississippi have taken privilege action, Arkansas may not take any discipline action against its NLC license.

Nursys is the coordinated licensure information system for all NLC party states, which means Nursys contains nurse licensure information, license discipline, and privilege discipline information for RNs and LPN/VNs from all NLC participating states. Information in Nursys is provided by boards of nurs-

continued on Page 23

**1.**

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License Information:

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ARKANSAS	RN	R1233231*	5/6/2009	NO	NO

Next Finish

**2.**

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License Information:

Jurisdiction	License Type	License Number	Expire Date	Discipline	Against Privilege to Practice
ARKANSAS	RN	R1233231*	5/6/2009	YES	NO

Next Finish

**3.**

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Verification Report for: **DOE, JON** \* Indicates a Compact License

License Information:

Jurisdiction	License Type	License Number	Expire Date	Discipline	Against Privilege to Practice
ARKANSAS	RN	R1233231*	5/6/2009	YES	YES - MS, SC

Next Finish



**By Lori Gephardt,**  
CONTINUING EDUCATION ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

# BE KNOWLEDGEABLE: KNOW THE LAW

We receive calls daily from panicked licensees stating they didn't know continuing education was required until they received their license renewal notice. Since implementation of the continuing education requirements, the ASBN has traveled many roads to spread the news concerning Act 86 of 2001, implemented in 2003, requiring nurses to complete certain continuing education requirements prior to renewal/re-instatement of their license. One of the most common methods used in an attempt to make licensees consciously aware of the continuing education requirements is each licensee must list completed continuing education along with the renewal/reinstatement information. Some nurses have renewed/reinstated their license stating they are not aware of the requirement by attesting to the statement: "I affirm that the contents of this document are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief, and that I have met the continuing education requirements for license renewal." Attesting to this statement without completing the required continuing education is a violation of the Nurse Practice Act. The nurse may be charged with violation of ACA§17-87-309 (a)(1) "is guilty of fraud or deceit in procuring or attempting to procure a license to practice nursing."

Continuing education can be obtained by completing contact hours, certification, or an academic course. Visit the ASBN website ([www.arsbn.org](http://www.arsbn.org)) for information on accepted certifications and academic courses. The majority of nurses have chosen to meet the

requirements by obtaining contact hours because they are readily available. **It is the individual nurse's responsibility to determine if the contact hours meet the requirements and many nurses have found this to be challenging.**

The first issue to consider is whether the offering is "practice-focused". Practice-focused means related to what is done as part of your job. For example, if you work on a hospital pediatric unit, then all contact hours must be related to pediatric clients. Topics related to nursing in general are also accepted – e.g. documentation, terrorism, pain management, pandemic influenza. **Individuals that are not working as a nurse, but hold an active license do not have a "practice", so the contact hours can be on any nursing topic.** All continuing education must be completed prior to renewal.

Also, make sure the continuing education activity is accredited by an organization found on the ASBN "Accrediting Organization/Approval Body" list on the ASBN webpage, [www.arsbn.org](http://www.arsbn.org). **The accrediting organization is not the company or business offering the education activity.** The Accrediting Organizations/Approval Bodies are companies that certify the content of the education activity. Search for continuing education that has an accreditation statement listed on advertising materials as well as the certificate of completion. **The approved activity accreditation statement is similar to: "This continuing nursing education activity has been accredited/approved by (this is where the accrediting**



**organization/approval body is found), an accredited approver by ..."** The most common accrediting organization/approval body of nursing continuing education is the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Commission on Accreditation (ANCC), but there are many other acceptable accrediting organizations/approval bodies.

Last, but not least- the **number of contact hours and date of completion** must be listed on the certificate. The Board of Nursing will accept continuing education accredited/approved by the following organizations/bodies **PROVIDED** that the appropriate documentation and contact hour assignment has been made. Below is a list of the accrediting organizations/approval bodies found on the ASBN website. This list will be updated as needed.

- All State Boards of Nursing
- Academy of General Dentistry
- Academy of Medical-Surgical Nurses
- Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME)
- Alabama State Nurses Association
- American Academy of Nurse Practitioners
- American Association of Diabetes

Educators  
 American Association of Occupational Health Nurses, Inc.  
 American Association of Respiratory Care [www.aarc.org]  
 American College Health Association  
 American College of Nurse-Midwives  
 American Holistic Nurses Association  
 American Nephrology Nurses Association  
 \*American Nurses Credentialing Center – Commission on Accreditation (refer to link)  
 American Society of Ophthalmic Registered Nurses  
 American Society of PeriAnesthesia Nurses  
 American Society of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgical Nurses, Inc.  
 American Society of Radiologic Technologists  
 Association of PeriOperative Registered Nurses, Inc.  
 Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology, Inc. (APIC)  
 Association of Rehabilitation Nurses  
 Association of Surgical Technologists  
 Association of Women's Health, Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses (AWHONN)  
 Continuing Education Coordinating Board for Emergency Medical Services  
 Dermatology Nurses Association  
 Emergency Nurses Association (www.ena.org)  
 Georgia Nurses Association, Inc.  
 International Association for Continuing Education and Training  
 Joint Commission on Allied Health Personnel in Ophthalmology (JCAH-PO)  
 Mississippi Nurses Foundation, Mississippi Nurses Association  
 National Association of Board of Examiners of Long Term Care Administration (NAB) – National Continuing Education Review Service (NCERS)  
 National Association of Orthopaedic Nurses  
 National Association for Practical Nurse Education and Service, Inc. (NAP-

NES)  
 National Board of Certified Counselors [www.bncc.org]  
 National League for Nursing (www.nln.org)  
 National Association of Social Workers [www.naswdc.org]  
 Naval School of Health Sciences  
 Office of Long Term Care (Arkansas)  
 Oncology Nursing Society  
 Radiation Control and Emergency Management – AR Department of Health

Society of Gastroenterology Nurses and Associates  
 Society of Urologic Nurses and Associates, Inc. (SUNA)  
 United States Air Force Nurse Corps  
 United States Army Nurse Corps Approval Unit – Academy of Health Sciences – U. S. Army  
 Wound Ostomy & Continence Nurses Society  
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continued from Page 19

ing on a basis ranging from daily to weekly submissions.

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If you need more information, feel free to contact [NursysS@ncsbn.org](mailto:NursysS@ncsbn.org), (312)-525-3780 or 1-866-819-1700, or visit [www.nursys.com](http://www.nursys.com).



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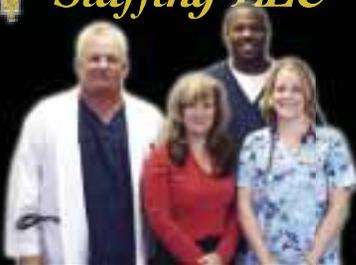
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Little Rock, Arkansas 72222

Or email: [mforinash@pcipublishing.com](mailto:mforinash@pcipublishing.com)

2006 Nursing Compassion Award Winner Sabrina Spradlin



## STUDY REVEALS RESTRAINT REDUCTION DOES NOT INCREASE FALLS

Arkansas has been ranked in the past as the state with the highest use of nursing home restraints in the nation. Efforts by various providers and healthcare organizations in the state have dramatically reduced restraint use over the past five years. As a result, quality of life for nursing home residents has improved.

Arkansas' rankings are based on data analysis from the national

restrained." In 2002, Arkansas' nursing homes reported the highest use of restraints in the nation, at 22 percent, compared to the national average of ten percent. After an increase to 23 percent for the following quarter, the state saw an impressive and steady decline over the next five years to the current

average of 13 percent (first quarter, 2007), compared to the national average of 6 percent.

To assist the states' nursing homes in achieving this notable improvement, the Arkansas Foundation for Medical Care formed the NHQI Advisory Group to unite long-term care stakeholders.

EFFORTS BY VARIOUS PROVIDERS AND HEALTHCARE ORGANIZATIONS IN THE STATE HAVE DRAMATICALLY REDUCED RESTRAINT USE OVER THE PAST FIVE YEARS. AS A RESULT, QUALITY OF LIFE FOR NURSING HOME RESIDENTS HAS IMPROVED.

Nursing Home Quality Initiative (NHQI), launched in November 2002 by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS). The NHQI uses quality measures to publicly report on the quality of care provided in nursing homes throughout the nation, including "Percent of Residents Who Were Physically

## Attention RNs!

The Arkansas Foundation for Medical Care is currently recruiting nursing professionals for our Little Rock office.

Current openings include:

- **Academic Detailer, Physician Office Setting**
- **Team Leader, Arkansas Innovative Performance Program, Long Term Care Setting**
- **Quality Specialist, Health Information Technology, Physician Office Setting**

For job requirements, visit [www.afmc.org/careers](http://www.afmc.org/careers).

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If you are interested in this dynamic opportunity, please e-mail, mail or fax your resume to:

- **Arkansas Foundation for Medical Care**  
Attention: Mindy Dunn  
401 West Capitol Ave, Suite 400  
Little Rock, AR 72201
  - **Fax: 501-212-8797**
  - **E-mail: [mdunn@afmc.org](mailto:mdunn@afmc.org)**
- E/O/E M/F/V/D



This material was prepared by the Arkansas Foundation for Medical Care Inc. (AFMC), the Medicare Quality Improvement Organization for Arkansas, under contracts with the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), an agency of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, and the Arkansas Department of Human Services, Division of Medical Services. The contents presented do not necessarily reflect CMS and Arkansas DHS policies. The Arkansas Department of Human Services is in compliance with Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act.

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*continued from previous page*

The NHQI Advisory Group provides statewide educational training to address the myths of restraint use and offers guidance on managing falls and problematic behavior. Advisory Group members include AFMC; Arkansas Health Care Association; Arkansas Health Care Foundation; Arkansas Department of Human Services, Office of Long Term Care; Arkansas chapter of the American Medical Directors Association; Long Term Care Ombudsman; consumer advocates, and Medicare beneficiaries.

Yearly analysis of Arkansas nursing homes has shown that the primary reasons for use of restraints have been fall prevention and behavior management. These reasons are not acceptable by best practice standards or federal regulatory guidance.

For more information about restraint reduction, contact AFMC at 877-375-5700 or visit the Web site at [www.afmc.org](http://www.afmc.org).

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4.8 Contact Hours | \$29

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6.9 Contact Hours | \$41

**Nurse Practice Acts CE Courses**  
Participants: AR, IA, ID, KY, MA, MN, MO, NC, ND, NM, NV, OH, VA, WV-PN/RN  
2.0 Contact Hours | \$12

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5.4 Contact Hours | \$32

**Professional Accountability & Legal Liability for Nurses**  
5.4 Contact Hours | \$32

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Attn: Human Resources  
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Phone: 501-771-1500  
Fax: 501-771-8542  
e-mail: [peggy.lewis@tutisinc.com](mailto:peggy.lewis@tutisinc.com)

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# Disciplinary Actions

## AUGUST 2007

The full statutory citations for disciplinary actions can be found at [www.arsbn.org](http://www.arsbn.org) under Nurse Practice Act, Sub Chapter 3, §17-87-309. Frequent violations are ACA §17-87-309 (a)(1) "Is guilty of

fraud or deceit in procuring or attempting to procure a license to practice nursing or engaged in the practice of nursing without a valid license;" (a)(2) "Is guilty of a crime or gross immorality;" (a)(4) "Is habitually intemperate or is addicted to the use of habit-forming drugs;" (a)(6) "Is guilty of unprofessional conduct;" and (a)(9) "Has willfully or repeatedly violated any of the provisions of this chapter." Other orders by the Board include civil penalties (CP), specific education courses (ED), and research papers (RP). Probation periods vary and may include an impaired-nurse contract with an employer and/or drug monitoring and treatment programs.

Each individual nurse is responsible for reporting any actual or suspected violations of the Nurse Practice Act. To submit a report or to receive additional information, contact the Nursing Practice Section at 501.686.2700 or Arkansas State Board of Nursing, 1123 South University, Suite 800, Little Rock, Arkansas 72204.

### PROBATION

*Abbott, Debbie Paulette Griblin*  
L25074, Norman  
Probation Non-Compliance  
Probation - addt'l six (6) months  
Civil Penalty - addt'l \$300

*Asham, Barbara Helene Biglow*  
R40785, Little Rock  
A.C.A. §17-87-309(a)(4)&(6)  
Probation - 1½ years  
Civil Penalty - \$750

*Atwell, Meredith Melissa*  
R69760, Little Rock  
A.C.A. §17-87-309(a)(4)&(6)  
Probation - 3 years

*Besancon, Fern Elizabeth*  
R53199, North Little Rock  
A.C.A. §17-87-309(a)(4)&(6)  
Probation - 1 year  
Civil Penalty - \$600

*Brown, Jodie Kathleen Spittler*  
R65101, Lowell  
A.C.A. §17-87-309(a)(4)&(6)  
Probation - 3 years

*Bruno, Penny J. Clark*  
R67899, Fayetteville  
A.C.A. §17-87-309(a)(6)  
Probation - 1½ years  
Civil Penalty - \$1,000

*Buckley, Lynetta Walker*  
L18456, Little Rock  
A.C.A. §17-87-309(a)(4)&(6)  
Probation - 1 year  
Civil Penalty - \$500

*Carter, Vickie Lynn McCarley Setzler*  
R56180, L31439(exp), Tuckerman  
A.C.A. §17-87-309(a)(6)  
Probation - 2 years  
Civil Penalty - \$1,000

*Clark, Holly Anne Spillers*  
L40404, Little Rock  
A.C.A. §17-87-309(a)(6)  
Probation - 1½ years  
Civil Penalty - \$900

*Colclough, Kimberly Ann Barker*  
L40241, Little Rock  
A.C.A. §17-87-309(a)(6)  
Probation - 1½ years  
Civil Penalty - \$800

*Crites, Denys Suzanne Musch*  
L41679, Springdale  
A.C.A. §17-87-309(a)(4)&(6)  
Probation - 3 years  
Civil Penalty - \$1,500

*Cumberbatch, Debra Patricia Rose-Dowden*  
R55759, Sherwood  
A.C.A. §17-87-309(a)(6)  
Probation - 1 year  
Civil Penalty - \$600

*Deshazier, Travis Fitzgerald*  
L30619, Pine Bluff  
Probation Non-Compliance  
Reinstate to Probation - 3 years  
Civil Penalty - addt'l \$1,500

*Evans, Nicole Page Cummins*  
R69707, Rogers  
A.C.A. §17-87-309(a)(4)&(6)  
Reinstate to Probation - 3 years  
Civil Penalty - \$1,200

*Jenson, Michelle Lynn Justice*  
L41450, Alexander  
A.C.A. §17-87-309(a)(4)&(6)  
Probation - 3 years

*King, Polly Marie King Reeder*  
R15532, Maumelle  
Probation - 2 years  
Civil Penalty - \$1,200

*Langston, Karita Michelle Reyes Garcia*  
R70138, L39412(exp), Benton  
A.C.A. §17-87-309(a)(6)&(9)  
Probation - 1 year  
Civil Penalty - \$500

*Linn, Mariah Elizabeth*  
L43601, Greenbrier  
Probation Non-Compliance  
Reinstate to Probation - 2 years  
Civil Penalty - addt'l \$300

*Martin, Brian William*  
R64956, Malvern  
A.C.A. §17-87-309(a)(4)&(6)  
Probation - 2 years  
Civil Penalty - \$1,500

*Parris, Jodi Amanda*  
L45299, Hot Springs Village  
A.C.A. §17-87-309(a)(6)  
Probation - 1 year  
Civil Penalty - \$600

*Pierce, Monica Sue Hogland*  
L29234, Wynne  
A.C.A. §17-87-309(a)(4)&(6)  
Probation - 2 years  
Civil Penalty - \$1,000

*Sharp, Lisa Ann Northcross*  
R51468, Huntsville  
A.C.A. §17-87-309(a)(6)  
Probation - 18 months  
Civil Penalty - \$750

*Wisniewski, Jeannie Renee Delancey McGee*  
L28836, Atkins  
A.C.A. §17-87-309(a)(4)&(6)  
Probation - 2 years  
Civil Penalty - \$1,000

### SUSPENSION

*Cox, Teri Leann*  
L41673, Thayer, MO  
Letter of Reprimand Non-Compliance  
Suspension until terms are met

*Dixon, Tina Marie Bundy*  
L41075(exp), Ozark  
Letter of Reprimand Non-Compliance  
Reinstate, followed by  
Suspension until terms are met

*Harrell, Andria Kay*  
R31259(exp), Judsonia  
Letter of Reprimand Non-Compliance  
Reinstate, followed by  
Suspension until terms are met

*Judah, Dana Lynne Willstrop Sharp*  
L21271, Morrilton  
A.C.A. §17-87-309(a)(6)  
Reinstate to Suspension - 1 year, followed by Probation - 2 years  
Civil Penalty - \$1,500

*Lunsford, Shilo*  
R78949, Gassville  
Suspension - 3 years, followed by  
Probation - 2 years  
Civil Penalty - \$2,500

*Moody, Karen Louise Mays Quick*  
R56816, Portageville, MO  
Probation Non-Compliance  
Suspension - 3 years, followed by  
Probation - 2 years  
Civil Penalty - addt'l \$250

*Morris, Christy Diane*  
L38483, Poteau, OK  
Letter of Reprimand Non-Compliance  
Suspension until terms are met

*Savage, Martha Lea Hillis*  
R42106, L27291(exp), Bryant  
Letter of Reprimand Non-Compliance  
Suspension until terms are met

*Savage, Sean Christopher*  
R76856, Calico Rock  
Probation Non-Compliance  
Suspension – 6 months, followed by  
Probation – 2 years  
Civil Penalty – add'l \$1,200

*Smith, Barbara Lylette Syfrett*  
R63391, Flippin  
A.C.A. §17-87-309(a)(4),(6)&(9)  
Suspension – 3 years, followed by  
Probation – 2 years  
Civil Penalty - \$2,500

*Snodgrass, Cynthia Yvonne Callaham Lee*  
R50642, Lamar  
Probation Non-Compliance  
Reinstate to Suspension – 4 years, followed by Probation – 3 years  
\$3,000 + prev

*Stewart, Tammy Annette Looney*  
L33078, Proctor  
Probation Non-Compliance  
Suspension – 4 years, followed by  
Probation – 3 years  
Civil Penalty - \$3,500 + prev

*Walters, Melissa Ann Mogenson*  
L40148, Malvern  
Letter of Reprimand Non-Compliance  
Suspension until terms are met

*Wilson, Woodrow Phillip*  
L30381, Hot Springs  
Letter of Reprimand Non-Compliance  
Suspension until terms are met

#### **VOLUNTARY SURRENDER**

*Blackmon, Bobby Wayne*  
R73249, Wynne  
June 15, 2007

*Ferrell, Sharon Marie Brewer*  
L36117, Jonesboro  
June 28, 2007  
*Hedge, Nancy Ann Harrell*  
R31675, Osceola  
July 20, 2007

*Smith, Michelle Renee McManus Hughes*  
L30172, Hot Springs  
July 24, 2007

*Taylor, Sheila Diana Hunter*  
R33920, L24107(exp), Little Rock  
June 13, 2007

*Webb, Lakeela Shanell*  
L39348, Sherwood  
July 20, 2007

#### **REINSTATEMENTS WITH PROBATION**

*McRaven, Janice Marie McFarland Jackson*  
R22590, A01297, Hot Springs Village  
Reinstate, followed by  
Probation – 1 year of  
Prescriptive Authority

*Reed, Charlotte Diana*  
R62603, Hot Springs  
July 16, 2007

#### **REINSTATEMENTS**

*Donnahoe, Brenda Gale Grier*  
L14029, Arkadelphia  
July 27, 2007

*Gaines, Gwendolynn Louise Berry*  
L24918, Mansfield  
July 27, 2007

#### **REPRIMAND**

*Andrejczik-Webb, Dina Carol*  
R49177, Prairie Grove  
A.C.A. §17-87-309(a)(6)  
*Davis, Deborah Lynn Doyle*  
R56717, Talihina, OK  
A.C.A. §17-87-309(a)(1)  
and A.C.A. §17-87-207(c)(2)

*Drum, Donna Lynn Adams*  
R79065, L32922, Neelyville, MO  
A.C.A. §17-87-309(a)(1)&(2)  
*Dumond, Christina Marie*  
L46377, DeWitt  
A.C.A. §17-87-309(a)(1)&(2)

*Marshall, Teneshia Evette*  
L46260, Nashville  
A.C.A. §17-87-309(a)(1)&(2)

*McGuire, Wendy Leann*  
R79437, Heavener, OK  
A.C.A. §17-87-309(a)(1)&(2)

*Mitchell, Marie Emma Thieme*  
L25746, Marianna  
A.C.A. §17-87-309(a)(1)  
and A.C.A. §17-87-207(c)(2)

*Morgan, Doris J.*  
R78903, Sacramento, CA  
A.C.A. §17-87-309(a)(1)&(2)

*Novotna, Magdalena*  
R79374, Rogers  
A.C.A. §17-87-309(a)(1)&(2)

*O'Connor, Mary Jane*  
R78902, Springdale  
A.C.A. §17-87-309(a)(1),(6)&(7)

*Phillips, Kathy Gail Smith Edwards Rowland Mays*  
L32805, Rison  
A.C.A. §17-87-309(a)(1)  
and A.C.A. §17-87-207(c)(2)

*Pielaat, Lau*  
R78964, Mountain Center, CA  
A.C.A. §17-87-309(a)(1)&(2)  
*Price, Patsy Jean Martin*  
R42252, Winslow  
A.C.A. §17-87-309(a)(1)  
and A.C.A. §17-87-207(c)(2)

*Roberts, Mary Jeanette*  
L39222, Paragould  
A.C.A. §17-87-309(a)(1)  
and A.C.A. §17-87-207(c)(2)  
*Tanner, Scott Lee*  
R02658, R78929, Crystal River, FL  
A.C.A. §17-87-309(a)(1)&(2)  
*Terrones, Amber Brooke*  
L46359, Searcy  
A.C.A. §17-87-309(a)(1)&(2)

*Watson, Tomi Lorraine*  
L46239, Roland, OK  
A.C.A. §17-87-309(a)(1)&(2)

#### **REVOCATION**

*Andolina, Joanne Tracy Johnson*  
R66325, Fort Smith  
A.C.A. §17-87-309(a)(2),(4)&(6)  
and A.C.A. §17-87-312(e)(28)

#### **PROBATIONARY STATUS REMOVED**

*Dye, Clarence Joseph*  
R77596, Fort Smith  
July 20, 2007

*McKee, Garrett Anthony*  
R54864, Little Rock  
June 21, 2007

*Willis, Connie Elizabeth*  
R16575, Benton  
June 21, 2007

#### **APPEAL DENIED**

*Holt, Amber Lindsey*  
L45924, Siloam Springs

#### **WAIVER GRANTED**

*Scott, Sherry Leann*  
RN Applicant, Corning

# LICENSE VERIFICATION

## Arkansas Nursing License Verification Options

The Arkansas State Board of Nursing provides the following options for individuals attempting to verify an Arkansas nursing license.

- 1.) **Phone Verification. Public (free).** Call 501.682.2200 put in license number and # sign. Listen for instructions.
- 2.) **Information Network of Arkansas. Public (subscription required).** Call 501.324.8900 or go to [http://www.arkansas.gov/sub\\_services.php](http://www.arkansas.gov/sub_services.php) for more information.
- 3.) **Nursys® Nurses' verification.** Go to [www.nursys.com](http://www.nursys.com). If the original state of nurse licensure is not a Nursys® participant, contact the original state licensing board.



by Ed Sweeten, INFORMATION SYSTEMS ADMINISTRATOR

## ENSURING YOUR SECURITY DURING TRANSACTIONS ON OUR WEBSITE

It has been awhile since my last article, but it has come to my attention that there is some concern about the security on our website. A brief explanation as to what makes transactions with our web site secure should clear up any concerns.

First and foremost, all of the transactions involving currency or private information are conducted using a protocol called Secure Sockets Layer, or SSL for short. To spare you the geekiness of it all, SSL is an Internet protocol that safeguards electronic communications between two or more computers. When transmissions are sent over an SSL connection, data is encrypted and cannot be modified in transit by other parties on the Internet.

Web sites that use SSL technology are

indicated by an "https" in their Web address, and a lock icon at the bottom right of the browser window (be sure and check for these indicators). Some browsers also change the color of the URL in the location bar to yellow. When you see these indications, your information is being transmitted over an SSL connection and is secure.

However, if your computer has a virus or certain types of spyware running, the data can be captured while your typing it into the web browser for any site, or even just typing documents and e-mail. It is extremely important to have an updated virus scanning program running on your computer at all times. It is advisable to update the virus scanning software at least once a week (daily is actually better). You should also

install one of the free anti-spyware scanners available on the Internet, several companies offer them ([www.Lavasoft.com](http://www.Lavasoft.com) and [www.safer-networking.org](http://www.safer-networking.org), among others). Remember these also have to be updated regularly and it is best to scan for viruses and spyware at least once a week.

Finally, never click on a link from another website or an e-mail to get to our website. Type [www.arsbn.org](http://www.arsbn.org) directly into the address bar of the Internet browser you're using. This will prevent someone from directing you to another site that has been set up to resemble ours. This technique of getting peoples information has been occurring with a number of financial institutions on the web and people have compromised their information.

Following these helpful steps should ensure your security while performing transactions over the Internet not only with our web site, but any others you may choose to do business with. Until next time, "Happy Computing!"

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contact: **Dee Schall, CNO 501-332-7367**  
 e-mail dschall@hscmc.org HR e-mail khopkins@hscmc.org

Southern Arkansas University Department of Nursing is accepting applications for a full-time tenure-track position in Nursing starting August 20, 2008. The position requires both didactic and clinical instruction of ADN and RN to BSN students. Duties: Includes teaching undergraduate courses, coordinating courses, supervising student clinical experiences, advising students, and performing other duties normally associated with college teaching. Review of applications will begin immediately and continue until the position is filled. The Nursing program at SAU is fully accredited by NLNAC. Qualifications: Master's Degree in Nursing or significant hours towards the degree; PhD or DNS and experience curriculum development and grant writing preferred; teaching experience; unrestricted Arkansas License and a minimum of three years clinical practice. Applicants should send letter of application, current vita, copies of all transcript, contact information for at least three references to: Office of Human Resources, Southern Arkansas University, P O Box 9288, Magnolia, Arkansas 71754-9288 or HR@saumag.edu. SAU offers a competitive fringe benefit package. Applicants must be able to show proof of U.S. employment eligibility. SAU is an AA/EOE and encourages applications from women and minorities.

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DAY	PORT	ARRIVE	DEPART
Sun.	Miami		4:00 P.M.
Mon.	Nassau	7:00 A.M.	2:00 P.M.
Tues.	"Fun Day" at Sea		
Wed.	St. Thomas/ St. John	9:00 A.M.	8:00 P.M.
Thurs.	St. Maarten	7:00 A.M.	6:00 P.M.
Fri.	"Fun Day" at Sea		
Sat.	"Fun Day" at Sea		
Sun.	Miami	8:00 A.M.	

Optional shore excursion to St. John available.

Who said Continuing Education can't be fun? We are changing that forever. Join ThinkAboutItNursing and Poe Travel for a CE Cruise that will cure your overworked blues with some *salsa and sun* on board Carnival's "Valor". While you're soaking up the Caribbean culture, you can earn your annual CE credits AND write the trip off on your taxes. How is that for paradise?

Prices for this cruise and conference are based on double occupancy (bring your friend, spouse or significant other please!) and start as low as **\$868 per person** (not including airfare). If you won't be attending the conference, you can deduct \$75. A \$250 non-refundable per-person deposit is required to secure your reservation for the cruise, BUT please ask us about our **Cruise LayAway Plan**.



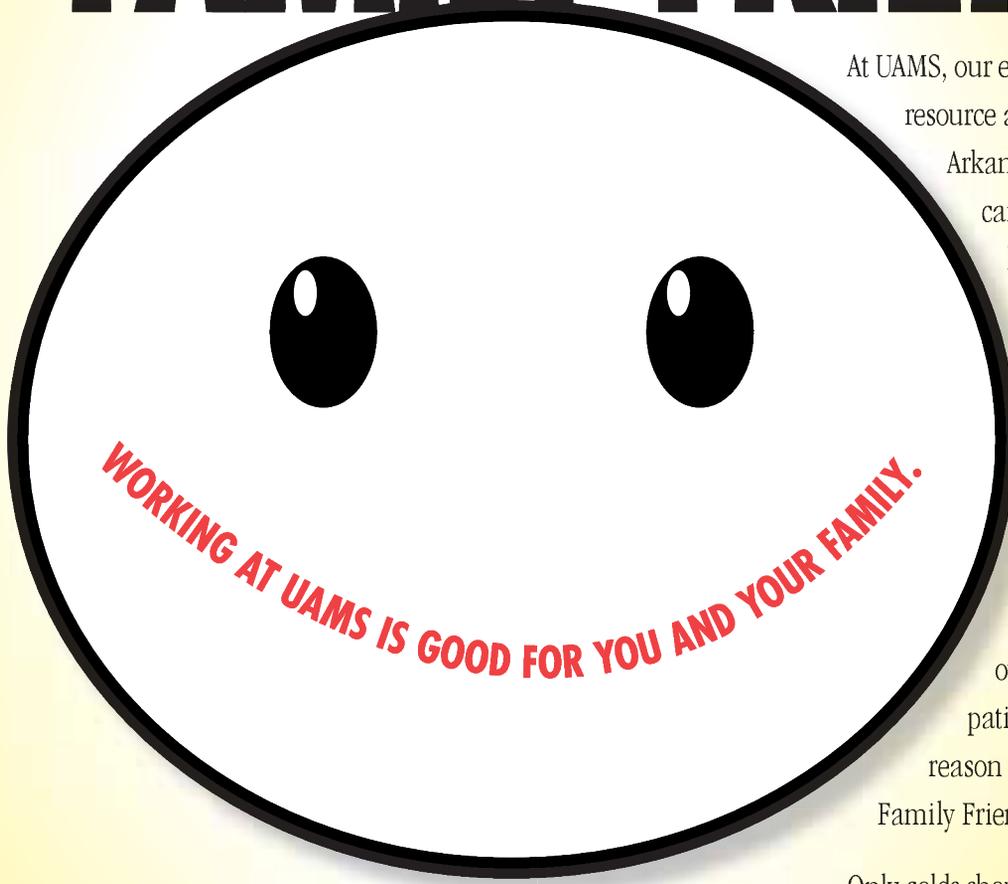
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For more information about the cruise, call or email

**Teresa Grace at Poe Travel • toll-free at 800.727.1960 • tgrace@poetravel.com**



# FAMILY FRIENDLY



At UAMS, our employees are our greatest resource and are the reason we're Arkansas' premier provider of health care. The diversity of our staff, who have come from 68 different countries, makes us unique and proud at the same time.

UAMS is committed to maintaining a family-friendly work environment, one that is open to new ideas and new ways of improving our methods of caring for our patients. This commitment is one reason why we were selected for the Family Friendly Employer Award.

Only colds should be "common." If your job is in need of a shot in the arm, visit [www.uams.edu/don](http://www.uams.edu/don) or call 501-686-5691.

## LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

### WOUND OSTOMY CONTINENCE RN

(BSN w/2 yrs. prev. WOCN & acute care experience required; WOCN certificate preferred)

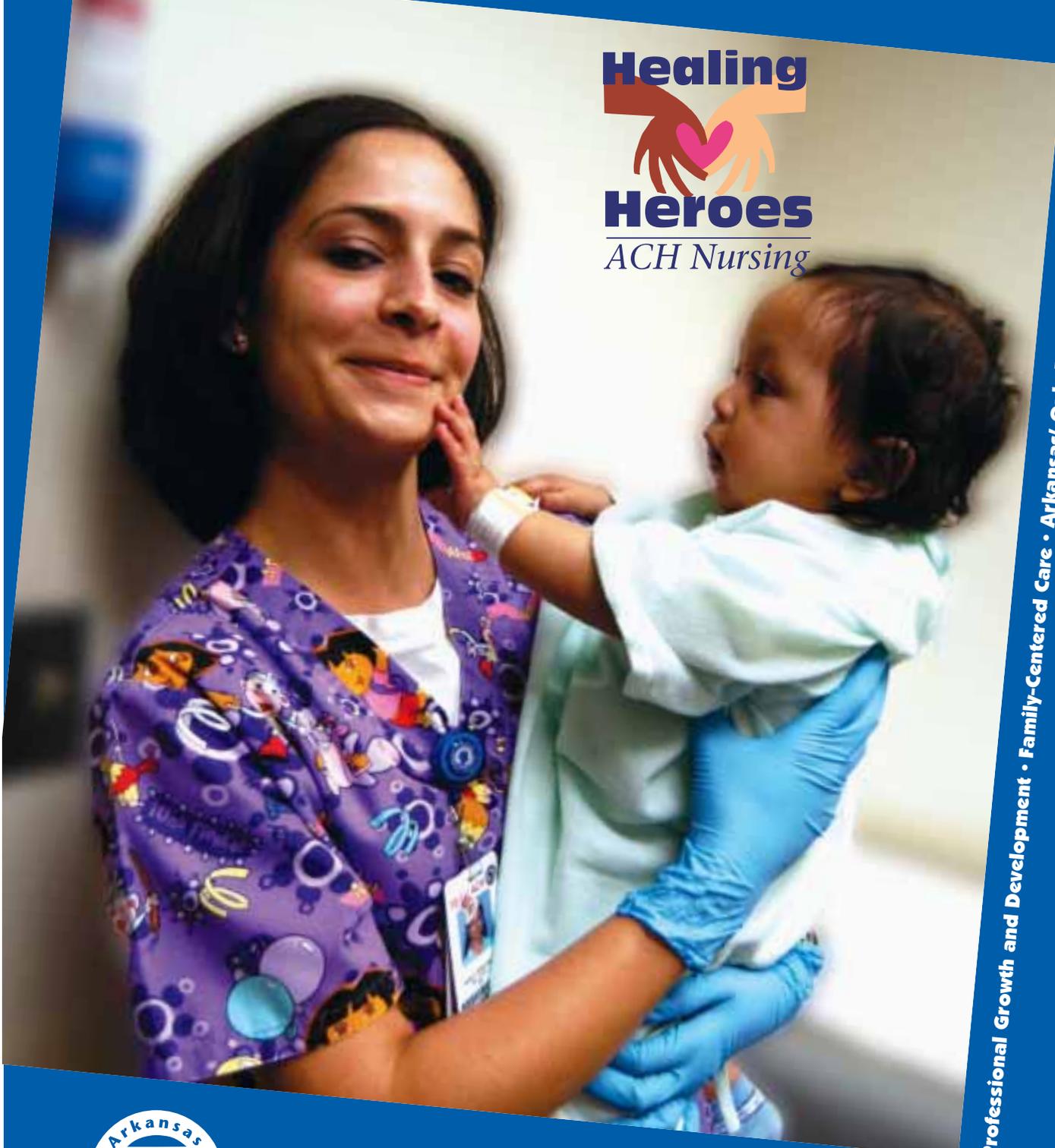
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UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS  
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**Heroes come in all shapes and sizes.**