

# OSH Recovery Times

Volume 2, Issue 5



May 2006

## National Nurses Week: May 8-12, 2006

*By Nancy Frantz-Geddes, RNC*

OSH is celebrating National Nurses Week Monday, May 8, through Friday, May 12. The inspiration for National Nurses Week began with Dorothy Sutherland of the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare, who proposed an event honoring nurses in 1953. The first National Nurse Week took place in October 1954, and two decades later, President Nixon made the celebration official. National Nurses Week made the shift from October to May, as declared by the American Nurses Association, to coincide with the birth date of Florence Nightingale.

The legacy of nursing will forever be tied to the life of Florence Nightingale. This amazing woman, born in Italy in 1820, produced a remarkable string of achievements that have charted the path for generations of nurses. Ms. Nightingale's most heralded acts occurred in Turkey during the Crimean War of the 1850s. Not only did she organize and train a corps of 38 battlefield nurses, but she also became the embodiment of hope as she carried her legendary lamp on a nightly vigil over wounded British troops. After the war, Ms. Nightingale went on to publish books, found a nursing school, bring sanitary science to hospitals, and transform the profession of nursing into an essential, respected part of the health care system.

Each year, we formally recognize nurses during the week in which May 12 falls, Ms. Nightingale's birthday. Nearly 3 million nurses in our nation give selflessly of their time, talent, and compassion to perform vitally important, extremely demanding work. We have more than 240 nurses currently employed at OSH, who provide exceptional services to a very challenging and rewarding population. Nurses are dedicated professionals who fulfill an essential need by healing illness, easing pain, and providing comfort and understanding for

the millions of patients in their care. Every day in countless ways, nurses reconfirm their commitment to "do all in my power to maintain and elevate the standard of my profession... and devote myself to the welfare of those committed to my care."

Please take the time to appreciate the nurses in your areas. Nurses at OSH are committed to care and should be recognized for their essential contributions to patient and hospital services.

Happy Nurses Week 2006!

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OSH Recovery Times is edited by Jessica Loewen. Contact Jessica at 503-945-2892 with questions, comments or suggestions.

## Greenhouse Sale

By Jessica Loewen

Patients working in the OSH Vocational Services Greenhouse have done such a good job that it is overflowing with plants. Wednesday, May 31, and Thursday, June 1, the Greenhouse will be open to the public and you will have the opportunity to purchase houseplants, herbs, cacti, annuals, perennials, vegetables, and strawberries perfect for your office or home. The sale will be from 1:00 to 4:30 p.m. in the Greenhouse on Greenway Drive. Please note that this is outside the secure perimeter for patients. For more information, contact Debi Cederburg at (503) 945-0977 or Barb Pfaltzgraff at (503) 945-9978.

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## World of Knowledge at Your Fingertips

By Carol Snyder

As state employees, OSH staff have access to some amazing information resources. By logging onto the Oregon State Library Web site, an array of databases and full-text documents are available. Many of these resources are quite costly, but are free to staff for work-related inquiries. Books, videos, and articles from the State Library and from other libraries can also be requested. To get started, simply go to <http://library.state.or.us>, or call (503) 378-8800 to request a password. Your password will be sent to you quickly via GroupWise. The State Library offers hands-on workshops here at OSH, customized for our needs. The next workshop is scheduled for May 24, from 10:00 – 12:00 in the 40 Building computer lab. Call either Patsy or Diana in EDD at (503) 945-2876 to reserve one of 12 spaces. It will be useful to have received your password before attending the class. Of course, staff may continue to ask the OSH staff librarian to do computer searches and material requests by calling Carol at (503) 945-2880.

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## Kids on Campus

By Jessica Loewen

On Thursday, April 27, there were kids on the OSH campus, but only for the day. That morning approximately 30 kids, ranging in age from 8 to 16, were welcomed at the Administration Building. After that they toured the campus both above ground and in the tunnels. Children were not permitted in patient care areas, but staff from the Quality Improvement, Communication Center, Med Records, MIS, Housekeeping, Infection Control, Physical Plant, Clothing Shop, Warehouse, Food Services, and Volunteer Services departments took time to show the children some of the things we do every day at OSH. In the afternoon, some of the children were able to return to the work site of their parent, or another adult who brought them, for some on-the-job training.

## May 2006 Calendar

**8: OSH Foundation  
Board Meeting  
11:30 a.m.**

OSH Portland Campus  
Contact Jessica Loewen:  
(503) 945-2892

**May 8-12: National Nurses Week**

**May 10-June 7: Hawaiian  
Hustle Wellness Activity**  
Contact Linda Marshall:  
(503) 945-9838

**10: Friends of Forensics Meeting  
1:00 p.m.**

Brooks Conference Room  
Contact Deb Howard:  
(503) 945-7132

**17: Diversity Committee  
1:30 p.m.**

Callan Room  
Contact Rebecca Sweetland:  
(503) 945-2806

**19: Wellness Committee  
8:15 a.m.**

Callan Room  
Contact Sue Wimmer:  
(503) 945-2886

**21: NAMI Walk Fundraiser  
Noon Check-in**

Vera Katz Eastbank Esplanade  
Festival Area - Portland, OR  
[www.nami.org](http://www.nami.org)

**24: General Staff Meeting  
2:30 p.m.**

30 Building Gym  
Contact Pam Dickinson:  
(503) 945-2852

**May 29: Memorial Day**

**May 31-June 1: Greenhouse Sale  
1:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.**

OSH Greenhouse on Greenway Drive  
Contacts: Debi Cederburg  
at (503) 945-0977 or Barb  
Pfaltzgraff at (503) 945-9978

## Remembering Don

*By Jessica Loewen*

On April 15, long-time OSH patient Don Strecker passed away. He was 52 years old and spent all but 12 of his years in state institutions. As contradictory as it sounds, Don made a home at this institution, but then Don's life was a bit of a contradiction as shared by the patients, staff, and even former staff and Don's lawyer.

The 50 Building gym was filled with people on April 25, who came to remember Don at the service coordinated by Pastoral Services. People seemed to agree that Don could be difficult to work with and intimidate people like nobody's business, but that wasn't the whole story. He also had a big heart and went out of his way to help staff and patients alike. He befriended patients that nobody wanted to be friends with. He freely gave advice and also made his voice heard. He advocated for staff and patients when he felt they were being treated unfairly.

Although community placement was always the goal, in the end, this is the place that Don wanted to be when he died, with his "family," as he put it. It was clear to me as I witnessed the outpouring of fond memories from all of the people whose lives were touched by Don, that OSH considers Don "family" too. He will be greatly missed.

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## AS400 Migration Team Update

*By Joan Riley*

We are currently developing replacements for the AS400 formatted e-mails. The daily nursing report is being piloted on three wards, and is scheduled to be in use by all wards by the end of May. There are several other workgroups making progress towards new formats including infection control reports, warehouse, food service, and key requests, physical plant work orders, and, seclusion and restraint reports. These are being piloted during May. We will continue to work closely with affected users as formatted e-mails are replaced.

You can help us by deleting any old e-mails, documents, and databases that are non-essential. Essential files are those mandated by policy or legislation to be retained. The essential files will be converted to a format that communicates with modern programs. If there are old e-mails you would like to save please print a hard copy. Our goal is that once the AS400 is finally turned off, it won't be missed because all of its functions will have been replaced.

## Welcome

*March hires and promotions*

***Victor Aguilar***

Custodian

***Tammy Alba***

Mental Health Therapy Tech

***Janice Alldredge***

Human Services Assistant 2

***Michael Barkley***

Food Service Worker 2

***Sean Branch***

Custodian

***Tammi Ferland***

Office Specialist 1

***Lorie Ferris***

Mental Health Therapy Tech

***Susan Garson***

Mental Health Supervising RN

***Myrna Hall***

Mental Health Therapist 1

***Jillian Hoffman***

Mental Health Therapy Tech

***Merrilee Johnson***

Pharmacist

***Ronald McNutt***

Mental Health Therapy Tech

***Eleanor Molnar***

Psychiatric Social Worker

***Sonia Mora***

Mental Health Therapy Tech

***James Ryan***

Quality Assurance Coordinator

***Naikouan Saechao***

Mental Health Therapist 2

***Michael Stanley***

Food Service Worker 2

***Sharon Wrey***

Mental Health Therapy Tech

## Employee March Milestones

**•30 Years of Service•**

*Beverly Knutson*  
Food Services

**•25 Years of Service•**

*Steven Grimsbo*  
Physical Plant

**•20 Years of Service•**

*Barrett McMaugh*  
P5A  
*Marilyn Nichols*  
Superintendent's Office

**•15 Years of Service•**

*Kyra Miller*  
50F

**•10 Years of Service•**

*Catherine Gardner*  
Food Services  
*James Martin*  
50I  
*Karen Nguyen*  
Pharmacy  
*Daniel Roberg*  
35A  
*Joy Kosta*  
Pharmacy  
*Cheryl Massingale*  
50C

**•5 Years of Service•**

*Marilyn Gordon*  
48C  
*Maepowleah Oppedisano*  
P5A

**•Retirements•**

*Toni Carlson*  
Mental Health Therapist 1  
*Terry Shipley*  
Mental Health Security Tech

## Mandatory Reporting

*By Cheryl Miller*

Recently, it was brought to the attention of Human Resources that OSH security staff were notified of a young child left unattended in a vehicle on campus for an extended period of time. The appropriate action to take would have been to notify law enforcement and child welfare authorities immediately. Staff indicated that they believed because the event happened on campus, they were required to notify the superintendent only based on a matrix used by the Communications Center. OSH policy really addresses abuse notification procedures for patients of the hospital, but each and every employee working at OSH has an obligation outside of the policy that we also must follow.

Oregon state law mandates that workers in certain professions must make reports if they have reasonable cause to suspect abuse or neglect. These people are called mandatory reporters and they are a crucial link in the system to protect Oregon's most vulnerable citizens.

All employees of the Oregon Department of Human Services, including OSH employees, are mandatory reporters. They are required to report because they have frequent contact with at-risk populations – infants, children, people who are elderly or dependent, individuals with mental illness or developmental disabilities, and residents of nursing homes and other health care facilities.

Various laws covering these populations offer differing definitions of abuse and different penalties for failing to report, but many situations always require reporting. These include any evidence of physical injury, neglect, sexual or emotional abuse, or financial exploitation.

By law, mandatory reporting of abuse or neglect of children is a 24-hour obligation. You don't have to witness it at work, or get approval from anyone in administration prior to making a report. Events may occur that are not addressed by OSH policy and staff should understand that the OSH policy does not address all actions that may be required by an individual.

Please review the mandatory reporting chart on page 5 to determine your legal requirements for reporting suspected abuse or neglect. For further information, go to: [http://egov.oregon.gov/DHS/abuse/mr\\_employees.shtml](http://egov.oregon.gov/DHS/abuse/mr_employees.shtml) or call the Office of Human Resources at (503) 945-2815 or a member of the Superintendent's Executive Council.



# Mandatory Reporting Matrix

As an employee of DHS you are a Mandatory Reporter. You have the legal responsibility to report alleged abuse of the following: children, adults with mental illness or developmental disabilities, the elderly and individuals in nursing facilities. DHS staff having reasonable cause to believe that an individual has suffered abuse or that any person has abused an individual shall report suspected abuse to the proper authority. If you are uncertain regarding the proper reporting authority, request assistance from your manager. (Matrix also found at [http://egov.oregon.gov/DHS/abuse/publications/mandreport\\_matrix.pdf](http://egov.oregon.gov/DHS/abuse/publications/mandreport_matrix.pdf))

(✓) Indicates that a report must be made to one of the listed entities.  All DHS Employees are Mandatory Reporters		Roles and Responsibilities of Reporting	Populations	Oregon Statute	Reporting Responsibility	Local Child Welfare Office	Local Law Enforcement	Local SPD or AAA Office	Office of Investigations
		Employees Required to Report							
1	All DHS Employees	Children under the age 18	419B.005 to 419B.045	24 hours/ 7 days	✓	✓			
2	All DHS Employees	Elderly 65 and over	124.050 to 124.095	During Official Capacity		✓	✓		
3	All DHS Employees	Adults with Developmental Disabilities	430.735 to 430.765	During Official Capacity		✓	✓	✓	
4	All DHS Employees	Adults with Mental Illness	430.735 to 430.765	During Official Capacity		✓	✓	✓	
5	All DHS Employees	People in Nursing Facilities	441.630 to 441.680	During Official Capacity		✓	✓		

**Definitions of Abuse** (As it pertains to different client populations): There are different types of abuse; abuse can be physical abuse, sexual abuse and sexual exploitation, neglect, abandonment and mental injury and threat of harm or physical pain or injury. For specific definition of abuse pertaining to each client population, access the Oregon Revised Statutes at [www.leg.state.or.us/ors/home.html](http://www.leg.state.or.us/ors/home.html)

**Failure to Report:** There could be criminal and civil penalties for failure to report. For more information regarding these possible penalties, visit the Oregon Revised Statute website at [www.leg.state.or.us/ors/home.html](http://www.leg.state.or.us/ors/home.html)

**Official Capacity:** For more information on the definition of “Official Capacity,” contact the Department of Human Services, Human Resource Department.

**Training Resources:** More extensive training on Mandatory Reporting is available through DHS program training. For training schedule, visit the DHS Training Web site at [www.dhs.state.or.us/training/](http://www.dhs.state.or.us/training/)

**Video: Mandatory Reporting of Child Abuse.** Contact the Child Protective Service Coordinator with the Office of Children, Adult and Families (CAF) for video information.

# Cultural Competency and Diversity

By Rebecca A. Sweetland

Did you know that there is a new program at OSH? The Cultural Competency and Workforce Diversity Program began in February when I was hired as the program manager. I've spent the past couple of months learning about OSH. Everyone I've met has been helpful, patient, enthusiastic and thoughtful in sharing their time and knowledge. I am just delighted to be here to learn along with you about how to be respectful and tolerant in this diverse cultural environment we all live in. Hopefully this will be a monthly

column. Please let me know what you find interesting and useful, and what you would like to see in this article. I look forward to hearing from you.

**Sabías Que** (Did you know) that Cinco de Mayo is the celebration of a battle that took place 41 years AFTER Mexico won its independence in 1821? On July 17, 1861, Mexican President Benito Juarez put all foreign debts on hold for two years, to be paid at the end of the moratorium. Although other European governments honored

the promise, France did not. French troops invaded Mexico with a large and well-equipped army. Against all odds, Mexico defeated France on May 5, 1862, at Puebla. Three days later the attack resumed and Mexico was taken over by France until 1867, when President Juarez finally entered Mexico City and reestablished Mexico's independence. Even though a short-lived victory, the City and State of Puebla continues to celebrate the three-day-victory over France more than 140 years later.

Today, Cinco de Mayo is celebrated beyond the Mexican border. In Mexico, the celebration usually ends with shouts of ¡Viva Mexico! and a look forward to "El 16 de Septiembre: Día de la Independencia de Mexico."

## OSH has its own Valuing Diversity Committee (VDC).

Last month the VDC members generated many exciting ideas to pursue for the coming year. Also in April's meeting, the VDC decided it was time for consumers to serve on the committee as voting members. If you have any ideas about what this committee should spend its time and energy on, you can email: Rebecca.A.Sweetland@state.or.us or call (503) 945-2806. Any and all ideas are welcome! Trema kasi! Gracias! Thank you! Arigato! Danke!

**EDD Schedule:** Following are classes offered during the remainder of May at the Education and Development Department (EDD). Classes are located in the 40 Building unless otherwise noted. For more information on these events, call EDD at (503) 945-2875.

**General Orientation:**

May 8-12; 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. and May 15; 8 a.m. – 12 p.m.

**Ed Day:** May 9, 23;

8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

**"Are We Treating Schizophrenia Effectively" live Webcast:** May

9; 12 p.m. – 1 p.m.

**Healthy Emotions 4, Part 1:**

May 11; 10 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

**Bipolar Disorder Video: "Management of Pharmacology & Non-Pharmacology Challenges in the Correctional Setting":**

May 15; 9 a.m. – 10 a.m.

**Pro-Act Training:** May 16, 17, 18; 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

**Pharmacology-Antibiotics:**

May 17; 1 p.m. – 5 p.m.

**Healthy Emotions 4, Part 2:**

May 18; 10 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

**Roadcraft Drivers Safety Training**

May 19 & 24, 8 a.m. – 12 p.m.

**General Orientation:** May 22-26;

8 a.m. – 5 p.m. and May 30;

8 a.m. – 12 p.m.

**Debriefing Leadership:**

May 22; 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.

**Communication Principles:**

May 22; 1 p.m. – 4 p.m.

**Library Internet Training:**

May 24; 10 a.m. – 12 p.m., 40 basement

**Motivational Interviewing:**

May 25; 10 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

**Boundary Issues:** May 26;

2 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

**"Risk and Resilience in**

**PTSD" live Webcast:** May 31;

12 p.m. – 1 p.m.