Baptist nurse recruiter proves dreams can come true with release of novel

Growing up, Kim Ridley was always known as the kid with too much energy and no focus. She tried to conform to what she thought was normal, but eventually, she realized she had to be herself. Her goal in life was to be a writer, but her parents just called it a dream. That dream is quickly becoming a reality, as Ridley’s first middle grade children’s book, “The Curse of the Yama,” which is part of a series of books called “The C. Walker Chronicles,” is released Friday, May 27.

“It’s all just so surreal,” she said. “I never thought it would be possible for me to achieve this.” Even more amazing is how she finds the time to write. A registered nurse for nearly 30 years, Ridley works as a nurse recruiter for Baptist employment services and works some weekend hours as a house supervisor at Baptist Memorial Hospital-DeSoto.

“We are extremely proud of Kim for her accomplishment,” said Donna DePriest, supervisor of nurse recruitment. “I know she has been writing for several years, and it is wonderful seeing all of her hard work finally paying off.”

Ridley first dreamed up “The Curse of the Yama” in the 90’s, but she didn’t begin working on it seriously until five years ago, when she decided she was going to fulfill her goal and get her book published. “I had to learn the process on my own,” she said. “I went to writing conferences all over the country, and I had publishers review my work.”

To mentor someone is to be a trustworthy influence on an individual’s life, goals and experiences. It takes a great commitment from the mentor and dedication and perseverance from the mentee. The endeavor is nothing to be taken lightly and is something Baptist Memorial Health Care is providing to nurses systemwide.

Beverly Jordan, vice president and chief nursing officer of Baptist Memorial Health Care, founded the Baptist Nurse Leadership Institute three years ago. The intent of the program is to prepare nursing leaders for expanded roles in the future by providing them with instructional, educational and practical application. Three components make up the BNLI program, including education, mentorship and a capstone project.

After Jordan started BNLI she asked Julia Welch, director of the Center for Education and Organizational Development, and Dee Banta, corporate director of human resources, to create and manage a mentor program to coincide with the curriculum she would provide.

“Beverly does an excellent job of communicating why this program is so important personally and professionally,” Banta said. “It is because of her commitment that this program has been possible and we are able to offer the mentorship opportunities.”

Participants of the program are nominated by their entities. Through a selection process, Welch and Banta choose a pool of mentors based on experience and resources.

After each group is chosen, they are specifically partnered based upon strengths and development opportunities so their mentor can make the most of the experience for the mentee.
Baptist hospitals recognize dedicated nurses with DAISY Awards

Stefanie Hodges, a nurse working in the surgery department at Baptist Memorial Hospital-Union County, and Neely Dobson, a nurse working in the gynecology department at Baptist Memorial Hospital for Women, recently earned the DAISY Award for Extraordinary Nurses, which is given in appreciation of the work nurses do.

Hodges, who is the first recipient of the award at Baptist Union County, was nominated by three colleagues who praised her dedication to her patients and work family.

"Stefanie is always willing to go the extra mile for patients and co-workers," said Jetta Mitchell, a surgery technician. "She is truly a caring, loving and competent nurse."

Dobson was nominated by a hysterectomy patient who was comforted by her caring and concerned nature.

"She took great care of me, and when modesty was thrown out the window, she showed me such care and concern," the nominator wrote. "She shared some of herself with me, and that makes it even more personal and special."

Nursing administrators at Baptist Women’s Hospital and Baptist Union County accept nominations and select a nurse to receive the DAISY Award.

Hodges and Dobson received the award in presentations in front of their colleagues, physicians, patients and visitors. Both recipients received a certificate and a sculpture called A Healer’s Touch, which was hand-carved by artists of the Shona Tribe in Africa.

The not-for-profit DAISY Foundation is based in Glen Ellen, Calif., and was established by family members in memory of J. Patrick Barnes. Barnes died at 33 in late 1999 from complications of idiopathic thrombocytopenic purpura, an auto-immune disease.

The care Barnes and his family received from nurses while he was ill led to the creation of the DAISY Award.

All the nurses in Hodges’ and Dobson’s units received cinnamon rolls because while Barnes was in the hospital, he once asked his family to bring enough cinnamon rolls for him and the nurses in his unit.
It was at one such conference where Ridley met Ellen C. Maze, an illustrator author of spiritual supernatural tales, who recommended Ridley to her publisher at TreasureLine Books.

“The Curse of the Yama” is the first in a series of books detailing the adventures of Chloe Walker, the 12-year-old daughter of an archeologist who falls ill after opening a mysterious, old book.

Believed to be under the curse of Yama, modern medicine cannot help her father recover. Chloe takes it upon herself to venture into the jungles of India to find a cure for her father and discover the truth about the curse.

“When you read Kim’s work, you are hearing her actual voice,” Maze said. “Her playful innocence and sense of a good time comes through in every sentence. Chloe is Kim, I just know it.”

One of Ridley’s greatest achievements thus far has been her invitation to present her book as a vendor at the 2011 LeakyCon, a charity conference held July 13 through July 17 in Orlando, Fla., and presented by the staff of The Leaky Cauldron, a website dedicated to all things Harry Potter.

As for right now, Ridley is relishing the excitement that is coming with the publication of “The Curse of the Yama,” looking forward to meeting with middle school students, as well as continuing to work on her next novel, “Dirt,” which will be the first in a young adult romance series.

“Kim has unlimited creative talent and the most joyous outlook of anyone I know,” Maze said. “I don’t see her doing anything short of selling a million copies.”

Baptist Golden Triangle holds cake auction
Sandy Fields (left), an admissions representative at Baptist Memorial Hospital-DeSoto, and Bonnie Summerford, outpatient nursing supervisor, place bids on cakes during a silent auction held by colleagues of Baptist Centers for Cancer Care to raise funds for the Lowndes County Relay for Life. Colleagues donated more than 30 cakes and raised more than $600 for the center’s Relay team.

Baptist hosts ribbon cutting for Serenity Trail
Stephen Reynolds (left), president and CEO of Baptist Memorial Health Care, congratulates Kenny Meggs (right), on completing his Eagle Scout project: building the gazebo at the Serenity Trail at Baptist Memorial Hospital-Memphis. Initial funding for the trail was made possible through the Baptist Memorial Health Care Foundation. The Serenity Trail was officially dedicated on Wednesday, May 11.

Proven option for sinus surgery now available at Baptist DeSoto
A clinically proven, minimally invasive technology used by surgeons who treat chronic sinusitis is now available at Baptist Memorial Hospital DeSoto.

The hospital is the first in the region to be named a Sinus Center of Excellence. Chronic sinusitis affects more than 37 million Americans each year and can be extremely painful.

Patients suffer headaches, congestion, fatigue and other symptoms. The condition can affect an individual’s physical, functional and emotional quality of life.

“We’re able to offer Mid-Southerners with chronic sinusitis a less invasive treatment option versus the traditional major sinus surgery offered at area hospitals,” said James Huffman, administrator and CEO of Baptist DeSoto.

The surgery technique uses Balloon Sinuplasty devices by Acclarent.”

The procedure helps relieve sinus pressure and provides sinus relief by restructuring and opening narrow sinus passageways, restoring normal drainage and function.

Continued on page 5
Baptist hospitals in Mississippi receive grant from Susan G. Komen Foundation

The Susan G. Komen Foundation recently awarded a grant to Baptist Memorial Health Care’s Mississippi regional affiliate hospitals: Baptist Memorial Hospital-Booneville, Baptist Memorial Hospital-Golden Triangle, Baptist Memorial Hospital-North Mississippi and Baptist Memorial Hospital-Union County.

The $48,000 grant will be divided evenly with each hospital receiving $12,000.

The one-year grant will cover the cost of mammograms and other diagnostic services to medically underserved women in communities the hospitals serve.

According to the American Cancer Society’s Cancer Facts and Figures 2010, 1,970 new cases of female breast cancer will be diagnosed in Mississippi, and approximately 400 women will die from the disease.

More than 30 percent of the deaths from breast cancer in women older than 50 years of age are preventable through mammography screening.

When caught early, nine out of 10 women will survive breast cancer. Survival rates for breast cancer have steadily increased in women since 1990, thanks to earlier detection and improved treatment.

Mammography screening also increases the chance of detecting breast cancer small enough to be treated by lumpectomy instead of mastectomy and decreases the need for chemotherapy.

To date, Komen has awarded Baptist entities more than $2.5 million in grants, which is the most funding any local health organization has received from the Foundation.

What an exciting occasion to be celebrating 10 wonderful years! We have had our share of challenges and obstacles, which made achieving our many accomplishments much more endearing.

I cannot thank the Baptist family enough, as none of this would be possible without our valuable physicians and committed, compassionate staff.

In 2001, Baptist Memorial Hospital for Women, one of only a few freestanding women’s hospitals in the country, opened on the campus of Baptist Memorial Hospital-Memphis. We were the first and only hospital in Memphis dedicated to women’s health.

Our hospital respected and relied on the support of the 18-member Women’s Community Advisory Board to enhance our quality of service and growth in the community.

I have been honored to be a part of so many monumental events during my time here, and I would like to highlight some of our most memorable milestones on this 10-year journey.

In 2002, The Baptist Memorial Health Care Foundation granted $1.16 million to enable us to open the Baptist Comprehensive Breast Center, which took the Women’s Health Center to a new level of excellence. A multidisciplinary comprehensive breast conference began to meet weekly with 15 to 20 doctors who discuss current breast cancer diagnoses and the best treatment method based on patient wishes.

In 2004, our Women’s Health Center installed Second Look, a computer-aided detection system that assists radiologists in early breast cancer detection.

The following year, our Pathway to Prayer was dedicated. The Pathway to Prayer is an outdoor chapel on the back lawn of the hospital designed to be a place for prayer, peace, comfort and healing.

I was thrilled to be a part of the process in developing the Mid-South’s first high risk clinic for breast cancer, the Breast Risk Management Center, in 2008. The center provides a full continuum of care to those patients identified to be at increased risk for developing breast cancer.

In 2009, our Women’s Health Center relocated in the adjoining retail center to provide patients with a comfortable, spa-like atmosphere, complete with a rippling water wall and cozy chairs.

The Women’s Health Center on Humphreys and the Macy’s Oak Court location became completely digital that year, as well.

The Women’s Health Center has helped make getting a mammogram convenient to more than 35,000 women annually, approximately 370 of which are underserved patients; 320 of which are receiving their first mammograms; and 430 who have not been screened in more than two years.

At Baptist Women’s Hospital, we have continued our family by bringing nearly 50,000 beautiful babies into this world.

During the last 10 years, our newborn intensive care unit has graduated 6,000 strong, healthy babies. The NICU has matured with innovations such as the Giraffe Bed in 2005 and the Cooling Cap, which was first used in December 2009.

Recently, we honored our NICU graduates at the unveiling of the Gallery of Hope. The distinctive gallery, which was donated by Allison Rodgers Photography, features photos of healthy, happy NICU graduates of all ages and is designed to provide a visual reminder of hope for the families of current NICU patients.

I am proud that our hospital has received numerous awards and recognitions in our first 10 years. Among the most memorable were the 2006 McKesson Quest for Quality Prize; the 2004 Memphis Business Journal Best Place to Work, which was voted by our employees; and most recently, the 2010 Germantown Area Chamber of Commerce Large Business of the Year Award.

We have been pioneers and innovators in our industry while maintaining our commitment to the well-being and health of our community. We have strength in numbers, and everyone has a valuable part in providing compassionate care for others.

I am humbled by our many accomplishments and proud of everyone here at Baptist Women’s Hospital. I want to thank everyone again for the 10 wonderful years of dedicated service to women in our community.
“It is a huge time commitment for the mentor and the mentee,” said Jordan. “It is a joy to watch both the mentor and the mentee grow as people and managers within the Baptist system. We have past mentees come back as mentors to lend their experiences and resources they were given through this program.”

After the groups are assembled, Welch and Banta hold a kickoff event to acquaint everyone and to explain the guidelines and expectations of the program.

The participants then begin to work on a formalized professional development plan for the six-month mentorship period, outlining wants, needs and goals for the mentor and mentee.

“We encourage our mentors to think outside the box and provide mentees with opportunities that will be meaningful as they work down their career path,” Banta said.

Susan Ferguson, chief nursing officer for Baptist Memorial Hospital- Collierville, and Ronda Williams, nurse supervisor at Baptist Memorial Hospital-North Mississippi, are two participants of the third class who see the benefits of the program.

“IT is an honor to be selected as a mentor,” Ferguson said. “The program allows us to work with new leaders and help them navigate their path in a timelier manner. It also allows us to share information across hospitals, giving the mentees new ideas and a more comprehensive understanding of our system.”

Mentors and mentees spend countless hours outside their day-to-day work and family lives to better prepare the future Baptist leaders.

“This program has been an honor to be a part of and has provided me with invaluable knowledge and experiences,” Williams said. “Susan is great. She is always available and willing to help me in whatever way she can.”

The BNLI program is a formalized educational facet that is dedicated to improve opportunities within the Baptist system. Mentors and mentees have conference calls with Jordan, Banta and Welch to make sure they are up to speed and to answer any questions or concerns.

They all share a common passion in providing individuals with the appropriate experiences and opportunities they might not otherwise have. The hope is that each mentor and mentee will walk away ready to start their journey into a better professional life.

Susan Ferguson, chief nursing officer for Baptist Memorial Hospital- Collierville, and Ronda Williams, nurse supervisor at Baptist Memorial Hospital-North Mississippi, are two participants of the third class who see the benefits of the program.
CLASSIFIED ADS

HOUSEHOLD
- Solid oak loft bed, desk on one side and shelves and drawers on the other side, excellent shape, ladder included, $300. For more information, please call 901-861-6053 or 901-338-7652.

MISCELLANEOUS
- Toning and reshaping girdles for men and women. Please call Lesa at 901-409-1517.
- Weslo Cadence 78s treadmill with incline, folds up to save space, has been used very little. Please call 622-890-6531 if interested.
- Custom tissue paper pom-pom balls, perfect for bridal or baby showers, birthday parties, patios, room decorations and weddings, multiple sizes available, endless options for color patterns, made to order. For photos or a free quote on your event or project, please call Megan at 901-573-1517.
- 2007 Rogers black seven piece drum set, lightly used, one owner, purchased at Memphis Drum Shop, $450. Please call 901-409-8995 for more information.
- 1998 Maxum 19-foot ski boat with trailer, 4.3 liter engine with low hours, $5,500. For more details, call 901-476-1089 and leave a message.
- Backyard wooden playset, elevated fort with slide and roof and sandbox, frame has spots for three swings, breaks down into three pieces for moving on flatbed trailer, excellent condition, $150. Please call 901-737-0880.
- Sapphire and diamond ring, appraised for $8,000.
- 2007 Rogers black seven piece drum set, lightly used, one owner, purchased at Memphis Drum Shop, $450. Please call 901-409-8995 for more information.

YARD SALES
- Multi-family yard sale on Saturday, June 4, at 7 a.m., located at 3404 Burloke Lane in Bartlett, Tenn.
- Yard and jewelry sale at 5680 Carter Drive in Southaven, Miss., on Saturday, May 21 from 7:30 a.m. until noon.
- Dual yard sales at 1184 Huntsman Lane and 6756 River Oaks Drive on Saturday, May 21, close to Baptist Memphis, begins at 7 a.m.

RENTALS
- Two bedroom, 1.5 bath with office for rent in Colonial Acres/East Memphis cul-de-sac, hardwood floors, wood blinds, all appliances included, available July 1, $1,300 with deposit. Please call Will at 901-412-4018.
- Three bedroom, one bath home for rent in Southeast Memphis between Tchulahoma and Getwell, large kitchen, central heat and air, fenced yard, carpeting, storage room on back of house, rent is $650 a month with a $500 deposit. Qualifications required. For more information, please call 901-626-1435.
- Three bedroom, 2.5 bath home for rent in East Memphis, split floor plan with private den, kitchen comes with all appliances, hardwood flooring, carpet in den, security system, five minutes from Baptist Memphis, $1,800 a month. Please call 901-480-6840 for more information.

REAL ESTATE
- Three bedroom, one bath home for sale in Colonial Acres in East Memphis, covered patio, one car detached garage, completely renovated with lots of upgrades, new roof installed in May 2011. Please call 901-461-7477 for more information.
- Three bedroom, two bath home for sale in Arlington, Tenn., large living room and bedrooms, fenced backyard with shed, good schools, $174,900. For more information, please call 901-335-6609.
- Three bedroom, 2.5 bath home for sale in Lakeland, Tenn., on Stonebridge Golf Course in wonderful neighborhood, new stainless steel appliances, light and carpet, manicured landscaping, asking $154,000. E-mail catherine.easterwood@yahoo.com for more details.
- Lakefront lot for sale by owner, located on Greers Ferry Lake, Ark., easy access to boat launch ramp, golf, tennis and air strip. Call 870-897-9682.

WANTED
- Roommate wanted to share a three bedroom, two bath house in South Tipton County, Tenn., $350 a month rent plus utilities, male or female welcome, serious inquiries only. Please call 901-836-2991 and leave a message.
- Caregiver to help with mother who suffered a stroke in Eads, Tenn., area. Please call Jane at 901-233-7067.

VEHICLES
- 2010 gray Volkswagen Jetta, limited edition, four doors, heated seats, sun roof, power seats, MP3 package includes iPod and iPhone dock, CD and Bluetooth, excellent condition, 17,000 miles, $18,500. Please call Megan at 901-573-1517.
- 1989 Cutlass Oldsmobile for sale, less than 50,000 original miles, runs great. Please call 901-233-7067.
- 1996 BMW 318i convertible, red with black top, only two owners, 104,000 miles, good condition, $5,995. Call Ty at 622-231-0247 for more details.

SERVICES
- Interior painting, trim installation, most home repairs, decorative textures and finishes, free estimates. Call Charles at 901-246-7129.
- Lawn maintenance, leaf removal, pressure washing, edging, mowing and trimming, dependable and quality work, free estimates. Call Shane at 901-692-4500 or Jeff at 901-848-2200.
- Residential and commercial painting, free estimates. Call Wayne at 901-409-3230.
- Heating and air conditioning repair and installation, interior and exterior carpeting repair, basic plumbing and electrical repairs, re-keying of locks. Call Jessie at 901-570-4798.

PETS
- Boston terrier puppies, CKC registered, one female, three males, born March 25, $200 each. Please call 622-255-6757.
- Two-year-old male black lab with papers, raised around children and other pets, minimal training, excellent potential, free to good home. Please call 901-461-2396 or 622-306-0206.
- Shih-tzu puppies, two males and two females, will be ready on June 1, pictures available by request, $150 each. For more information, please call 622-538-9979.
- Two miniature horses for free home: 7-year-old silver dapple gelding, 34 inches tall, was bottle fed and has lots of personality, can pull a cart; 16-year-old black and white stallion, 30 inches tall, wonderful personality, has been in shows and parades. Please call 901-483-8931.

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