FROM THE EDITOR - Feeling the Power, by Marty Lewis-Hunstiger, BSN, RN, MA, retired pediatric nurse and preceptor, editor of Creative Nursing, and managing editor of the Interdisciplinary Journal of Partnership Studies, and an affiliate faculty member at the University of Minnesota School of Nursing in Minneapolis, Minnesota. The feature mentions each article in the issue and connects it to the theme. The article title refers to the need to acknowledge the value of caring, including the extent of unpaid care provided by family and friends in the U.S.

FROM THE GUEST EDITOR - Supporting Caregivers in Caring: Empowered to Disempowered and Back Again, by Michael Petty, PhD, RN, APRN-CNS, cardiothoracic Clinical Nurse Specialist at the University of Minnesota Medical Center in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Family caregivers contribute services valued at $450 billion to the U.S. economy annually. Although family members frequently lack training in the techniques of health care, providers routinely turn to them to provide care when a patient’s condition no longer meets criteria for hospitalization. This article explores the concepts of caregiver empowerment and disempowerment, offers strategies for enhancing empowerment, and describes actions that unintentionally may disempower those same individuals. Case examples are used to draw attention to cues health care personnel may encounter that signal a need to look deeper into the caregiver’s capacity to provide the needed care. Early identification of barriers to capacity will permit the health care team to bring resources to bear on the patient’s situation to facilitate safe transitions of care.

ARTICLES AND ESSAYS

Using Docudrama in a New Graduate Nurse Residency Program: Stepping into the Lives of Families Experiencing Dementia, by Jeanne Merkle Sorrell, PhD, RN, FAAN, a former Senior Nurse Scientist in the Nursing Institute, Department of Research and Innovation; and Christine Szweda, RN, BSN, MS, NE-BC, Senior Director of Operations for Nursing Education, both at the Cleveland Clinic in Cleveland, Ohio. Hospitals are increasingly implementing residencies to help ensure that new graduate nurses are prepared to provide safe and effective care. At the Cleveland Clinic, a docudrama focused on ethical concerns in living with dementia was implemented into a 6-month pilot New Graduate Nurse Residency Program. Outcomes suggest that the docudrama helped nurse residents gain empathy and understanding through stepping into the lives of families experiencing dementia.

Caring Economics: A New Framework for Conceptualizing and Measuring Economic Activity, by Indradeep Ghosh, PhD, Assistant Professor of Economics at Haverford College in Haverford, Pennsylvania; a certified Caring Economy Conversation Leader and a leader of the Social Wealth Economic Indicators project at the Center for Partnership Studies. This article introduces a new...
framework for conceptualizing and measuring economic activity called “caring economics.” Going beyond the conventional understanding of economic activity as that which unfolds in markets, caring economics highlights the work of care and caregiving that occurs within households and is often unpaid. The essay also unveils a new set of measures based on the framework of caring economics that are urgently needed by policymakers and business leaders to foster personal, business, and national economic success.

Building Economic Value for Professional Nurses at the Gateway to the Health Care System, by Sharon A. Jamieson, MSN, MN, ARNP, an independent Family Nurse Practitioner in Lakewood, Washington. This article designates primary care clinics as the gateway to the health care system. With coming shortages of primary care physicians, advanced practice nurses (APRNs) are increasingly providing outpatient primary care. This author describes an enhanced role for professional nurses partnering with APRNs in primary care clinics as directed care practitioners. The author states that this enhanced role will lead to improved effectiveness of the health care system, establish independent economic value for nursing activities, and utilize the full range of nurses’ expertise.

INTERVIEW
What Matters Most: A Conversation with Brian Wong, MD, MPH, Head Coach and CEO of The Bedside Trust in Seattle, Washington, and author of Heroes Need Not Apply: How to Build a Patient-Accountable Culture Without Putting More on Your Plate. Interviewed by Mary Koloroutis, MSN, RN, CEO and consultant at Creative Health Care Management in Urbana, Illinois, and co-author of See Me as a Person: Creating Therapeutic Relationships with Patients and Their Families. In this article Brian Wong describes a patient-accountable culture as built around the question, What matters most to patients? He asserts that it is up to each health care professional to take responsibility for his or her positive impact on the culture with every single interaction. Each interaction needs to support what matters most to patients and to the well-being of the team. As all health care professionals get better at showing up in a patient-accountable way, everything else gets better: patient safety, patient satisfaction, employee engagement, and even the bottom line. Not because of a series of initiatives, but because we ask ONE question… “What matters most to you?”

OUTCOMES
Simulation Pedagogy with Nurse Practitioner Students: Impact of Receiving Immediate Individualized Faculty Feedback, by Sheila Grossman, PhD, APRN, FNP-BC, FAAN, professor and Coordinator of the Family Nurse Practitioner Track in the School of Nursing; and Jaclyn Conelius, PhD, APRN, FNP-BC, assistant professor in the School of Nursing, both at Fairfield University in Fairfield, Connecticut. Family Nurse Practitioner students must achieve basic competency in managing patients’ primary care needs across the lifespan. Students in the FNP program have
simulations integrated throughout their clinical theory courses to increase practice time with various patient cases. Students who received individualized faculty feedback immediately after self-evaluation of simulation performance showed statistically significantly increased knowledge (as evidenced by higher grades in course examinations and preceptor evaluations) than a control group of students who received feedback in a group class via a rubric grading guide two to four weeks after all students completed their individual simulations.

PATIENT SAFETY
Embedding High-Fidelity Simulation into a Foundations of Nursing Course, by Megan Sary Talbot, DNP, MSN, CNE, RN, instructor in the Merritt College Nursing program in Oakland, California, and adjunct faculty member in the School of Nursing and Health Professions at the University of San Francisco in San Francisco, California. Delay in recognizing the need for and initiating lifesaving measures is unacceptable in health care. The rapid response system was developed to expedite recognition of and response to changes in a patient’s condition. Clinical nursing students spend significant amounts of time at patients’ bedsides; it is quite possible that they would be the first to discover and respond to a change in a patient’s condition. Utilization of high-fidelity simulation by beginning nursing students to practice recognizing and responding to patient deterioration is vital to both the welfare of patients and the edification of students. Recognizing and responding quickly to patients’ early warning signs of deterioration can determine a patient’s outcome. This article discusses the importance of instructing beginning nursing students in identifying and reacting appropriately to early signs of patient deterioration and in following the chain of command to activate the rapid response team.

THE STUDENT VOICE
Nurses: The Right and Rites to Write. Right? by Mark Darby, BSN, RN, Director of Community Outreach at the North Omaha Area Health (NOAH) Free Clinic, and a MSN/FNP student at the University of Nebraska Medical Center in Omaha, Nebraska. Creative writing can be used to enhance professional skills by changing point of view and imagining a different ending. Gaining facility in writing can enhance nursing skills and improve self-knowledge and empathy. Story is the link between knowledge and understanding in nursing. Narrative competency is the ability of a practitioner to understand and respond to story, such as the story of a patient’s illness, which results in increased self-awareness, empathy, and ability to look at the world through another’s viewpoint. Fiction writing can reveal the personally mediated bias that creates health care disparities.

Message from Plato: Expanding our Nursing Horizons, by Brenda L. Snow, MSN, RN, CMSRN, clinical nurse educator at Southern Ocean Medical Center in Manahawkin, New Jersey, and a PhD candidate at Kean University in Toms River, New Jersey; and Virginia Fitzsimons, EdD,
Recognizing human enlightenment is a common theme from the ancient discipline of philosophy. The budding philosophy of nursing continues to find meaning and value in advanced education. This article offers a lesson about not knowing what we don’t know. Plato’s Allegory of the Cave offers a unique insight for nurses hesitant to return to school for advanced degrees. Those who believe that the endeavor offers little in return may find enlightenment in this two-thousand-year-old allegory. Plato’s Cave both encourages the reader to consider the unseen benefits of an educational journey and provides hope about the value of the unknown.

THE VOICE OF PATIENTS AND FAMILIES
The Power in Caring: Stepping in Where Others Don’t Even Think to Tread, by Diana Denholm, PhD, LMHC, medical psychotherapist in West Palm Beach, Florida, author of The Caregiving Wife’s Handbook: Caring for Your Seriously Ill Husband, Caring for Yourself, and inventor of the myPAL™ Patient Access Links system. A caregiver reveals that to move “from experience to empowerment”, one must first recognize that his or her experience has value. Every caregiver has experienced something that calls out for improvement or change. Empowered acts can be as simple as monitoring the food choices hospitals offer our loved ones, and reporting deficiencies. Yet, caregivers avoid discussing difficult issues, and may be unable to communicate effectively about needs and/or solutions. Learned communication is the key to achieving what we wish, simultaneously creating the best possible relationships with those around us. Six easy steps, along with tips and tools, are given to help collaborate and create agreements.