



# OCRA Newsletter

*Oregon Cancer Registrars' Association*

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Merry Christmas everyone

I hope everyone will have a great holiday season. It is hard to believe 2016 will be here in just 3 weeks. Yikes!

I have enjoyed serving as your President this past year.

The Executive Committee did an excellent job meeting the challenges this year. And I want to thank them for all their hard work. Their dedication and hard work made my job easier to do.

AND because of their hard work and that of the ad-hoc committee, I am pleased to announce that work on the website has begun. Good timing on this since OSCaR was running into issues—the software was out of date and it was unlikely to be updated.

I, also, want to thank those who served on the different committees, you are a vital resource for OCRA.

I encourage one and all to find the time to work on a committee or join the executive committee, it is enlightening and interesting and most times fun.

And for 2016, Cat Gunn is the incoming President and I want to just wish her a great year!

Lastly, may the New Year be a fantastic year filled with love, laughter and bright new ideas.  
Happy New Year

*Shannon Ramos*  
RHIT, CTR, BS  
Oregon Cancer Registrars Association President 2015

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

7 SISTERS	2
EDUCATION	2
BABY LAYLA	3
CONTRACT WORK	3
WHAT DOES 890 CARDS LOOK LIKE?	4
ORCA WEBSITE	6
ELECTED OFFICIALS	6



## 7 SISTERS ALL GET BREAST CANCER

Click on picture to start video



“A medical mystery surrounds the Boston-area sisters, who have no strong family history of the

## EDUCATION: AJCC: DONNA M GRESS, RHIT, CTR

Tamoxifen given for a couple of weeks is NOT neoadjuvant therapy, and should NOT be assigned yp staging.

The physician experts stated two possible reasons:

It could be that there is a delay (or a perceived delay) for surgery. This makes the patient feel that something is being done. It is not neoadjuvant.

Also, there are now clinical trials where a run-in course of endocrine therapy is given and imaging, such as FES-PET is used pre and post the 2-4 week course to assess for early response as a surrogate for long term endocrine benefit.

If your patients are not part of this clinical trial, it is NOT standard treatment. They are assessing it to judge whether the patient would benefit from long term therapy after their surgery. It is NOT being administered as neoadjuvant therapy.



## Very Exciting! Untested designer cell therapy saves a baby dying from Leukemia



Five months ago, Layla Richards's parents were told that their infant daughter was about to die.

The child had been undergoing treatment for acute lymphoblastic leukemia since she was just 14 weeks old. She'd been subjected to chemotherapy, flown across the U.K. for experimental procedures, undergone bone marrow transplants and endured countless blood tests. The majority of her year-long life had been spent in intensive care units. And still,

“Doctors don't want to say that ‘there's nothing we can do’ and offer palliative care, but sometimes that's the only option,” Layla's mother, Lisa Foley, said in a [hospital press release](#).

But the little girl's family took the only option and rejected that too. “We didn't want to ... give up on our daughter,” Foley continued. “So we asked the doctors to try anything.”

“Anything” turned out to be a highly experimental and possibly ineffective therapy that had never before been tested on anything larger than a lab mouse. It might not have any effect on Layla's leukemia, the doctors warned. It might even make her sicker. [CONTINUE STORE....](#)



### INTERESTED IN CONTRACT WORK?

If you are a current OCRA member who is a CTR and willing to do contract work. Please send your contact information to the secretary to be added to the contractor list. This list will be posted on the members only section of the OCRA website. Submissions must be received no later than January 31st

Contact: Marsha Beal

bealmarsha@gmail.com or 541-760-6874



## WHAT DOES 890 CARDS LOOK LIKE?

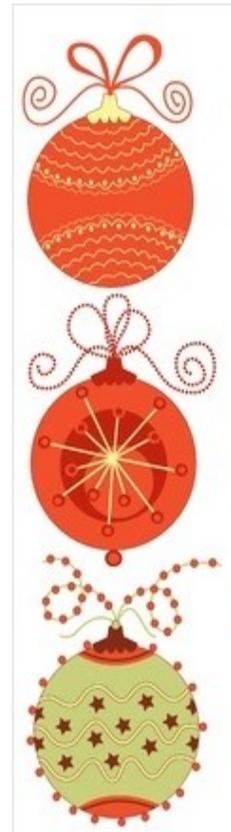
My Grandmother recently had her 90th birthday and had a big celebration in September. I decided to put an ad in this little magazine that we get called the Ruralite for her birthday. I said that my grandma loves cards and will be celebrating her 90th birthday and please help her get 90 cards. Little did I know the response was going to be so overwhelming. I am sure my postmaster is glad this is over, as I normally don't get a lot of mail.

I actually got 90 cards in two days and took her those 90 cards on her birthday party. The cards continued to come in and two days in a row I had to carry a box out of the post office with 150 cards. They have continued to come and she has received 892 cards. Yes, that is not a typo, 892. 2 cards came after the picture with 890. The magazine goes out to the western region and she got most of her cards from Oregon, California, Washington, Idaho, Nevada, Arizona, and Alaska. I did see a few from Hawaii and one from Illinois. A few classrooms across Oregon also had their young students make cards. Most of the cards sent were not just ordinary cards. There were so many made or special touches added to the cards and envelopes. Some even sent things or money. She got a couple dream catchers, bottle with a treasure hunt inside, \$5, \$2 and several \$1 bills.

I am sharing a picture of my grandma with all of her cards and a copy of a birthday letter that was my grandma's favorite and mine too. Amazing this came from a third grader. She is still opening cards, but reading and enjoying each and every card.

Martha Curl, CTR





Dear ywanha Kennedy,  
Happy birthday! I  
I hope you get many birthday  
wishes. you must be a very special  
person to have a daughter  
or son who wants you to have  
a very special birthday. With  
many birthday wishes. When I'm  
your age I want to have a great  
birthday. But right now I'm only  
in 3<sup>rd</sup> grade. I have a long ways  
to go. I want today to be a day back  
that you look back at your childhood  
memories and smile. HAVE A  
Wonderful BIRTHDAY!

Sincerely,  
Gabby

**WE'RE ON  
FACEBOOK!!**

**2015 ELECTED OFFICIALS**

***President: Shannon Ramos, CTR***

***President Elect: Catherine Gunn, CTR***

***Treasurer: Lori Lucente, BS CTR***

***Secretary: Carol Funk, CTR***

***Past President: Bonnie Kubli, CTR***



Oregon Cancer Registrars' Association  
NEW website coming soon!



Would you like to write an article for the newsletter?

Or have something related to the cancer field that you would like to share?

If so, please send your newsletter submissions to Deanna at

[Deanna.X.Patton@kp.org](mailto:Deanna.X.Patton@kp.org)

Deadline: January 31, 2016

