

Puzzling...

Life is like a jigsaw puzzle. I'm sorry it is not a box of chocolates but I thought after all the holidays and with the New Year's diets underway you would enjoy a non-dessert analogy! We have most of the outer edges of our life puzzle connected and laid out on the table as a framework. While we are "puzzling" or piecing the rest of our lives together, we have an enormous amount of flexibility and opportunity.

Unlike a regular puzzle, the picture or theme of our life is not static—it changes as we develop new goals and circumstances. Your life is a continually evolving masterpiece and the moments of inspiration where the evasive answer or uncertain future becomes clear will be some of your greatest memories! You never know when inspiration will strike so always look and explore this whole new world in front of you (minus the genie and the flying carpet, of course)!

This issue of *Imprint* is all about exposing you to the "new worlds" and the different directions nursing can offer. From getting your BSN, exploring RN residencies, to getting involved with Federal legislation or becoming



a Chief Nurse Officer or a Parish Nurse, read and see if your personal career puzzle pieces fit in with any of these career choices. Discovering what is not a good fit is almost as important as figuring out what fits your career goals. That's why you need to research many different options.

If you begin to feel overwhelmed, frustrated, or even puzzled with the puzzle process, stop and take a deep breath. Then take a quick encouraging glance at what you have already accomplished and value your past and present work. It is only after you accept where you are now that you can begin to add another piece to your puzzle!

You can do it. A puzzle of a thousand pieces begins with a single connection (a modified Confucius quote). Step out and make those connections, discover a new world, and create the career puzzle of your life!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lan Ba". The letters are cursive and fluid.