



Kyle Phillips / The Transcript

Doctors Park Home Health's business developer Linda Moore-Whitaker, left, and operations manager Keith Shrum pose in their facility located at 517 E Robinson St. The business is celebrating their 25th year of serving Norman.

Homegrown comfort

25 years of home health service from Doctors Park

By **Katie Standlee**
Transcript Staff Writer

Doctors Park Home Health's expertise is serving healing and health for patients in the comfort of their home.

Its office is located at 517 E. Robinson St., but going to the patient's home is Doctors Park's speciality. This year, the Oklahoma-owned and family-operated business is celebrating 25 years of being just that.

"That's a large feat that a lot of companies aren't able to accomplish in this business," Keith Shrum, operations manager for Doctors Park Home Health said. "So, it's a big accomplishment for people to stay in one place, and the public and the people that we serve depend on us."

Linda Moore-Whitaker in business development for Doctors Park Home Health, said to start out Oklahoma-owned and family-operated and to stay that way for 25 years, is significant.

"So, that's what we are celebrating, the 25 years that we have been Oklahoma-owned and operated and family-operated," Moore-Whitaker said. "We are celebrating the fact that even though we

are not a large corporate entity, we have found a place here in the Norman community and the metro area."

She said not being tied directly to a corporation allows the staff to treat patients like family. In Oklahoma, she said, everyone is always friendly and willing to lend a hand.

Doctors Park Home Health serves Norman and the Oklahoma City metro area through in-home disease management, wound care, advanced illness management and rehabilitative services such as physical and speech therapy.

The business works closely with Norman Regional Health System and assists patients who come to them on a doctor referral. She said its main goal is to keep readmission rates down and to keep patients healthier and on the path to achieving their wellness goals.

"The hospital releases them and then we are charged with making sure they stay healthy, so

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"We are celebrating the fact that even though we are not a large corporate entity, we have found a place here in the Norman community and the metro area."

Linda Moore-Whitaker,
Doctors Park Home Health,
business development



A decade of engineering

Cabbiness Engineering is celebrating its 10th year of operation in Norman. Launched in July 2009, the engineering firm was the brainchild of husband and wife Bret and Vicki Cabbiness and recently played a hand in the Westwood Family Aquatic Center construction.

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Around Town

The Sunday Business Journal's weekly look at new construction, dirt turning, building permits and more.

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Bret Cabbiness, owner of Cabbiness Engineering poses at a table at his business located at 333 12th Ave. SE. The engineering firm is celebrating its 10th year.

Cabbiness Engineering builds on a decade in Norman

By Breanna Mitchell
Transcript Staff Writer

As Bret and Vicki Cabbiness prepared to launch their civil engineering company, Cabbiness Engineering LLC over 10 years ago, they never doubted its home would be Norman.

Prior to Cabbiness' conception, Bret said he was getting tired of leaving his wife and two young daughters at home in Norman every workday to commute to his job in Oklahoma City.

"I had two young girls going to school, and [I] was missing some of their award programs and things of that nature," Bret said. "Even though I was a partner in the engineering firm I was previously at, I always had the desire to start my own business and be my own

boss."

Taking a risk, the couple launched the company in July 2009, while the United States was still reeling from the Great Recession.

"It was kind of a big risk and a big leap," said Mindi Johnson, marketing manager for Cabbiness. "But they had a vision, and they had a plan, and it's ultimately been a huge success for them."

Vicki said she was nervous, but also excited, when Bret introduced the idea of starting their own business.

"I really didn't know what to expect. We had never started a business, we had both been in the corporate world," Vicki said. "It's nice going in not knowing what you don't know, because

"We just want to work on ... making sure that we are taking care of our clients, so they trust that their projects with us are getting done right and getting done on time and staying on budget."

Bret Cabbiness,
owner at Cabbiness Engineering

then you're not afraid to do it. You just figure it out as you go."

Bret said he developed a five-year plan for the company with his wife, but they blew through it within 18 months and had to move on to bigger and better plans.

The majority of Cabbiness' work has stayed in Oklahoma, including many

projects specific to Norman.

Cabbiness contributed to the Lindsey Street conceptual plan, East Alameda Street widening, Porter Avenue and Acres Street intersection improvement and, recently, Westwood Family Aquatic Center construction.

"Norman is our home, and we want to continue to focus on improving the quality of life of everybody here," Bret said.

Cabbiness has also developed a close relationship with the University of Oklahoma through work on the Partners Place locations, the Jimmie Austin Turf Care Facility and a variety of utility projects.

"There's a lot of projects down there that I've got my fingerprints on that I'm really proud of," Bret said.

Cabbiness also connects with OU students through a summer internship program.

"We try to get really involved in the campus and get some local talent to stay local," Johnson said.

Bret said he takes pride in the innovative and collaborative culture of Cabbiness and uses it to attract and keep talent in the company.

"Because of Bret ... and the work environment he provides here, I envision making this my work home until retirement," Cabbiness employee Helen Thompson said.

Bret said he is happy to keep the Cabbiness team between 12 and 20 people and focus his energy on other company goals.

"We just want to work on ... making sure that we are taking care of our clients, so they trust that their projects with us are getting done right and getting done on time and staying on budget," Bret said.

Astro-Graph by Eugenia Last

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