

Celebrating National Nurses



On May 10, **Adventist GlenOaks Hospital** named **Susan Ford**, RN, nursing leadership, as its Nurse of the Year, which included a \$1,000 cash award. Ford was recognized for her expertise and commitment to patient care and her dedication to working with staff at the bedside as well as with colleagues on various projects and committees. According to her nomination, "She has always been a valued contributor and exemplifies the highest standards." Ford was selected from unit winners, which included **Char Kaczowski**, emergency department; **Tammy DelValle**, ICU-CCU; **Terri Stinespring**, surgical services; **Ronnie Matundan**, behavioral health; **Amelia Valdez**, birth center; and **Barb Warszona**, med/surg.

Pictured: Susan Ford.



On May 10, **Adventist Hinsdale Hospital** selected **Colleen Gale**, clinical III, lead RN, operating room, as its Nurse of the Year, which included a \$1,000 cash award. According to her nomination, "She is understanding, fair, compassionate and very approachable. She always tries to meet staff and surgeon needs, while ensuring the patients' welfare is first and foremost." Gale was selected from the previous year's Nurse of the Month honorees, which included **Bonnie Christerson**, labor and delivery; **Jill Walsh**, clinical education and staff development; **Miriamma Kanjirathumotil**, post-op; **Linda Wood**, intensive care; **Karen Albrecht**, intensive care nursery; **Noreen Connelly**, emergency services; **Nancy Prasil**, day surgery; **Polita Ballesteros**, nursing Resource; **Kelly Bielawa**, emergency department; **Anne Krob**, ambulatory services; and **Larry Barrientos**, emergency department. *Pictured: Colleen Gale.*



On May 10, **Adventist La Grange Memorial Hospital** honored **Susan Bosko**, RN, operative services, as its Nurse of the Year, which included a \$1,000 cash award. According to her nomination, "Susan Bosko is truly a patient advocate and treats each patient like they were a family member with respect, caring and excellent nursing skills." Other Nurse Excellence Award winners were **Margie Crudo**, emergency services; **Ann Czarny**, critical care; **Judith Camiliere**, medical units; **Janet Garcia**, surgical units; **Marjorie Schaser**, maternal child; and **Leagina Padolina**, ambulatory services. *Pictured: Susan Bosko.*

On May 2, **Jennifer Connor**, a nurse in the special care nursery at **Advocate Christ Medical Center**, received the hospital's Joyce Woytek Award for Nursing Excellence at a luncheon held at Silver Lake Country Club in Orland Park. Officials said she often sees to the needs of the sickest patients, interacting with compassion and professionalism with families and hospital staff. She is the unit council chair, and has been invaluable in coordinating various hospital inspections. She is also a role model for her peers. Fifty-three nurses were nominated for the award. *Pictured are L to R: Darcie Brazel, vice president for operations and chief nursing executive, Jennifer Conner, and Sandra Aardsma, radiation oncology (last year's winner).*



Week – Chicago Style

By Janice Neumann

On May 10, a Service Excellence Team/Communication Roundtable Support Team made up of nurses and other hospital staff helped celebrate nurses at **Advocate Good Samaritan Hospital** by handing out cards thanking nurses for the many “thankless” tasks they regularly perform. Those tasks include giving up holidays and weekends to care for the sick, skipping lunch to make sure others are well cared for and “wheeling and dealing behind the scenes to get things done.” Pictured right (l to r): **Marge Van Kampen**, volunteer for 15 years; **Sandy Burke**, RN in the operating room; **Dorothy Grundmann**, volunteer for 18 years.



On May 11, at **Advocate Illinois Masonic Medical Center**, **Sarah H. Kagan**, PhD, RN, presented “Ageism in an Aging Society? Looking for



Leadership in Nursing and Health Care.” Dr. Kagen is an associate professor of gerontological nursing, a gerontology clinical nurse specialist in medical nursing and a faculty member of the department of otorhinolaryngology – head and neck surgery at the University of Pennsylvania. She offers advanced nursing consultation to patients, families, nurses and physicians on the complex needs of older adults related to their hospitalizations for acute and chronic illness. *Pictured: Sarah Kagan*

On May 4, **Advocate Lutheran General Hospital** kicked off its annual “Dimensions of Excellence Conference” at the Donald E. Stephens Convention Center in Rosemont. The conference included special recognition of nurses and sessions on such topics as community outreach, advance care directives, palliative care and behavioral health. The keynote speaker May 5 was **Leah Curtin**, a senior partner at Metier Consultants and former editor-in-chief of *Nursing Management*. *Pictured: Jean Mau, RN, care manager/heart failure specialist, Advocate Lutheran General Hospital (right), presents her poster entitled “Impact of a Targeted Program Designed to Encourage Patients to Ask Questions Pertaining to Their Health: The Ask Me 3 Project” at Advocate Health Care’s 5th annual Dimensions of Excellence. The poster has been awarded the Institute for Healthcare Advancement (IHA) 2005 Health Literacy Award in the research category.*



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On May 11, the nursing staff of **Advocate Trinity Hospital**, along with Trinity pharmacists, hosted a Community Day to express their appreciation to the community members who entrust nurses with their care on a daily basis. The staff provided free medication reconciliation (medication related counseling), answered questions regarding medications and provided blood pressure screenings. In addition, **Linda St. Julian**, RN, chief nurse executive/vice president of operations, was named Nurse Leader of the Year by her staff. *Linda St. Julian (center) received Nurse Leader of the Year from Trinity's nursing staff.*

On May 13, **Elmhurst Memorial Hospital** hosted an educational forum for nurses and other hospital staff, "Many Roles, One Profession: Nursing in the OR." Speakers included pharmaceutical firm representatives, non-profit organization staff and the hospital's operating room, sterile processing department and perfusion staff. Topics included bone and orthopedic instruments, donor information and operating room set-up. *Photo right, l to r: **Rose Cruz**, radiology receptionist, handles the tools used in an abdominal surgery under the direction of*



***Angel Gonzalez**, RN, surgical services. **Sandra Reid**, RN, OR educator (center) observes the interactive station. Photo left: **Nina Brice**, RN, surgical services (right) helps guide **Richelle Kotarski**, CVN, of Midwest Heart Specialists, to recover sweet tarts in a mock gallstone operation using endoscopic instruments.*

On May 6, independent consultant **Terry S. Johnson**, ARNP, RNC, MN, spoke to nurses at **Evanston Hospital** on "Extreme Nursing, Survival Skills for Nurses in 2005." In addition, the hospital hosted a Nurses Tea, which several hundred employees attended. The elegant affair featured beautiful flower centerpieces, linen tablecloths and an assortment of pastries and drinks. *Photo by Jonathan Hillenbrand, Evanston Northwestern Healthcare.*



On May 9, **Loyola University Medical Center** had a "Nurse Appreciation Day," featuring complimentary chair massages, body composition and hand grip strength testing with a t-shirt awarded to the strongest nurse. A special fitness center membership offer was also given out, with interested RN's and LPN's receiving a \$300 enrollment fee waiver and the month of May free. *Lynette Labno from Loyola's Center for Health and Fitness gives a massage to one of Loyola's nurses. Photo by Alvin Hayashi, Medical Photography, Loyola University Health System.*

Week – Chicago Style



On May 10, **Irene Stemler**, RN, gave the keynote talk on “Heroic Acts in Humble Shoes” to nurses in the Sinai Health System, which includes **Mount Sinai Hospital** and **Schwab Rehabilitation Hospital**. Stemler urged nurses to “stop being so humble and realize that nurses are the real heroes of medicine.” Stemler, a certified rehabilitation nurse, founded Creating Spirit, a company that helps organizations create healthy work environments that inspire people. She also created an art exhibit of

photographs and the shoes of nurses from a variety of disciplines alongside their corresponding short stories. *L to r: Irene Stemler, Jackie Conrad, Sinai vice president of patient care services, and Vangie Castillo-Asuncion.*

Eleven nurses at **Northwestern Memorial Hospital** were honored May 9 for exemplifying the hospital’s goal of providing the highest quality of health care. The nurses were nominated by unit colleagues on such qualities as professionalism in appearance and mannerisms, being a strong advocate for patients, being accountable for their actions, being collaborative, compassionate, dynamic and knowledgeable. “The recognition is a testament to the outstanding work and service these extraordinary professionals provide to patients, the hospital and the industry,” said **Michelle Janney**, vice president and chief nurse executive at Northwestern. The nurses receiving the awards were: **Lilia Corral**, RN, surgical intensive care unit, Melrose Park; **Cahren Cruz**, RN, department of medicine, Chicago; **Barbara Davis**, RN, utilization management specialist, Chicago; **Maryann Fitzpatrick**, RN, same-day surgery, Chicago; **Denise Gibbs**, RN, women’s health inpatient, Downers Grove; **Julie Gipsh**, RN, staff nurse, triage/intake office, psychiatry outpatient treatment center, Skokie; **Addie Pampalone**, RN, emergency department, Chicago; **Kim Pataky**, RN, special care nursery, Chicago; **Annaliza Rodriguez**, RN, stem cell transplant, Romeoville; **Krystina Sajdak**, RN, interventional radiology, Chicago; **Karen Ray**, RN, neurology/spine surveillance, Skokie.

Bottom row, l to r: Denise Gibbs, Krystina Sajdak, Addie Pampalone, Cahren Cruz and Annaliza Rodriguez. Top row, l to r: Julie Gipsh, Karen Ray, Lilia Corral, Barbara Davis, Maryann Fitzpatrick and Michelle Janney. Not pictured, Kim Pataky. Photo courtesy of Northwestern Memorial.



Celebrating National Nurses

On May 9, **University of Chicago** nurses who have served in the military were honored at a candle-lighting ceremony at Rockefeller Memorial Chapel, near the hospital. Keynote speaker Lieutenant Colonel



Sandra-Webb Booker, PhD, who has served in Honduras, Central America, South Korea, Panama and Bosnia, spoke about “The History of Nurses in the Military.” Booker is an associate professor of nursing at Chicago State University and the past departmental chairperson. She is the administrator of the Chicago Public Schools Practical Nursing Program.

Two other army nurses who served in Iraq, Major **Shirley Spencer** and Captain **John Provenzano**, also shared their stories. The University High Senior Girls Bel Canto Ensemble performed and the 6015th Garrison Unit of the U.S. Army Reserve posted flags.

The **University of Illinois Medical Center** at Chicago launched a Nurses Week campaign to salute its nurses. Banners and bus signs were prominently displayed throughout the medical center and campus that recognized the hospital’s nurses for their contributions at work, but also highlighted the interests they pursue outside of work which brings balance and joy to their lives.



One of the Nurses Week banners displayed at U of I Medical Center

Week – Chicago Style

On May 6, the Clinical Practice Nursing Council treated nurses at **Provena Saint Joseph Medical Center** to a “Comfort Day for Care Givers,” with seated massages, aroma therapy and a variety of educational books for sale.

On May 5, Kristin Nelson, MA, ethicist in the Department of Religion, Health and Human Values, talked to nurses at **Rush University Medical Center** about an ethics case study. **Elaine M. Scorza**, RN, MA, clinical nurse coordinator for Psychiatric Services, spoke on “Herbs and Aromatherapy.” Hospice Partners **Carrie Shearer**, MS, CRC, **Heather Ann Lantey**, MT, BC, and **Andy Miller**, CC, MT, spoke on “Care of the Caretaker.”

On May 14, **West Suburban Medical Center** honored four nurses, a teacher and a nursing student. **Peg Bowden**, RN, a staff nurse in the Margaret & Irvin Houck Family Birthplace, was recognized for her exceptional leadership skills in being a team player and for going above and beyond the call of duty in assisting patients and co-workers. **Eurydice (Prudy) Davis**, RN, staff nurse in the emergency department, was recognized as a nurse mentor. She has made a difference in the lives of her patients and with her in-depth knowledge of the emergency medicine nursing field and her unique communication and teaching skills. **Kathy Schleuter**, RN, a



Prudy Davis, RN



Kathy Schleuter, RN

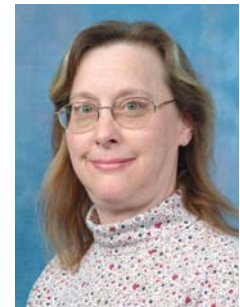


Yolanda Duran, RN



Kelly Sulo, nursing student

staff nurse who works in the special care nursery, was recognized for her dedication to clinical excellence. She is considered an advocate for the tiniest of patients. **Yolanda Duran**, RNC, a charge nurse in the Margaret & Irvin Houck Family Birthplace, was recognized as a patient advocate and effective leader. Officials said she has a true passion for her patients, always willing to help new mothers. **Georgianna Thomas**, EdD, MS, BSN, assistant dean and associate professor, was recognized as an outstanding teacher and agent of change in developing new educational programs, including a summer camp for Resurrection High School students interested in nursing. **Kelly Sulo**, a nursing student at West Suburban College of Nursing in Oak Park, was recognized for being an exemplary student who is committed to community service and advancing the nursing profession. ♦



Peg Bowden, RN



Georgianna Thomas, RN

THE Chicago Nurses' Parade

By Janice Neumann

Now...



Nurses from across the Chicagoland area came together on Saturday, May 7, for the second annual Chicago Nurses' Parade.

About 65 nurses, many carrying banners representing their organizations, marched from the Federal Plaza to the Daley Center in Chicago. Participants included various nurse's associations, the Chi Eta Phi Nursing Sorority, Oakton Community College nursing students, Kankakee Community College nursing students and Cook County Nurses. The parade was led by the Phoenix Military Academy Band and Color Guard.

Highlights of the rally in Daley Center included the reading of a proclamation from Mayor **Richard M. Daley** stating that the day of May 7, 2005 would be declared National Nurses Day in the city of Chicago and of a similar resolution that was adopted

and then



Pictured above left are nurses who marched on Saturday May 7, 2005. Above right shows a float from the original parade, which ran from 1949-1959.


by the Illinois House of Representatives. A letter from Senator **Barack Obama** was also read, which stated, "The four million nurses in our country – 150,000 right here in Illinois – deserve tremendous recognition for working to improve the health and well-being of all Americans."

Though a parade honoring nurses may seem like a new phenomenon, the first Chicago Nurses' Parade took place in 1949 and continued for the next 10 years. "Chicago's Nurse Parade," a book by **Carolyn Hope Smeltzer** with **Frances R. Vlasses** and **Connie R. Robinson** – three Chicago-area nurses – was published earlier this year by Arcadia Publishing. The book highlights the history of the parade and includes many pictures of past parades.

Smeltzer is a partner in PricewaterhouseCoopers' healthcare advisory practice. Vlasses is an assistant professor at the Loyola University, Niehoff School of Nursing. Robinson is a clinical nurse associate in Pediatric Nephrology at the University of Chicago Children's Hospital. Smeltzer and Vlasses are co-authors of "Ordinary People, Extraordinary Lives: The Stories of Nurses," (Sigma Theta International Publishers, 2003). Smeltzer also wrote "Lake Geneva in Vintage Postcards, published by Arcadia Publishing this year.

The late Father **Clarence M. Brissette**, national director of the Sorrowful Mother Novena at Our Lady of Sorrows Basilica, who saw firsthand the vital work that nurses do, started the parade as a Friday night pilgrimage, according to the authors. Though the parade started with two floats and four bands, according to the book, it became a lavish affair and ultimately included 4,000 nurse participants and 100 hospital floats with over 100,000 spectators attending each year.

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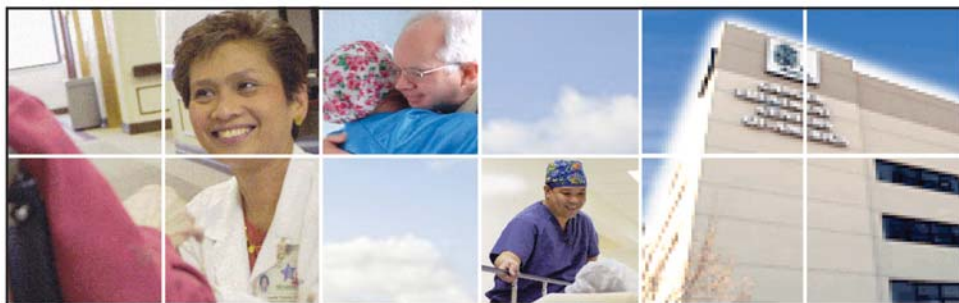
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