

NATIONAL NURSES WEEK MAY 6 - MAY 12, 2021



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A SALUTE TO NURSES

BY CHRIS JORGENSEN
CJorgensen@billingsgazette.com

Nurses have long been viewed as heroic, but it's been a while since we've all at the same time gotten to witness how truly superhuman they are.

As most of us last year were scrambling away from the deadly pandemic, and each other, nurses were charging in.

And, it cost them. Quite a few nurses in the country died and many others got sick. There were countless stories of nurses who protected their own families by living alone elsewhere, or sequestering themselves in their own homes. Many nurses traveled to distant states to give other exhausted nurses a break. One public health nurse in McCone County in central Montana worked 230 days without a day off.

And, for too many nurses, and far too many families, a nurse was the only person at the bedside when a patient died.

A Billings Clinic nurse is one of those nurses who had a patient slip away while she was holding her hand. In this case, it wasn't a COVID patient, but the victim of a bad accident whose family couldn't be found.

She "went above and beyond to ensure that her patient was not alone during their final moments," wrote the person who nominated her for the Salute to Nurses honor.

Perhaps saddest of all during the last year is how the deadly COVID virus swept through our most vulnerable population, senior citizens. More than 41% of victims in U.S. were over age 65.

At St. Johns United, a senior living campus in Billings with about 550 residents and 700 staff, Carmen Cox had her hands full keeping everyone safe. Through much of last fall, just as the state was racing to keep on top of the pandemic and the unprecedented vaccination efforts, it seemed like official advice and rules was changing daily.

Cox spent countless hours tracking testing results, answering questions and helping people, often on her day off, said the person who nominated her.

Cox's success at staying on top of it almost certainly saved lives. St. John's got through the worst of the pandemic with one of the lowest average case counts anywhere, and one of the highest vaccination rates.

After the hard year we've had, it seems woefully insufficient to just say thank-you to nurses. But, thank you, for saving our lives, for holding our hands, for helping us heal, and getting us all back together.

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The Year of the Nurse

The last year has, without a doubt, been the most challenging health care has faced in decades. A once-in-a-lifetime pandemic has stretched, strained and stressed the resources, people and systems there to take care of people, not only in our region, but across the globe.

Through it all nurses have been a calming, steady presence to guide us. They have been there for their patients, colleagues and communities no matter what. With a fierce and selfless compassion that embodies the very spirit of nursing itself, nurses have shown us what it means to be a true health care provider. It is both humbling and awe-inspiring.

We have witnessed acts of heroism both big and small from nurses, and all of them are incredibly meaningful. The simple yet important kindness of holding a critically ill patient's hand at the bedside. Leading the charge in caring for all patients who come through their doors in uncertain times, no matter the ailment. Working long, tough extra hours as patient numbers soared, and staff was stretched thinner and thinner.

Guiding, comforting and caring for all of us.

Nurses put the safety, comfort and wellbeing of others first. It's a part of who they are and a part of what they do. And we know that the last year has only highlighted just how difficult that can be. It's been incredibly tough, and we still have much healing to do from the shared and individual trauma we've experienced.

The path to recovery will once again be led by nurses. They have shown inspiring courage in taking care of not only patients, but themselves and their colleagues. It is with that same compassion and dedication that nurses will light the way forward.

As we emerge from the last year-plus, nurses have anchored care teams and guided patient journeys. They continue to promote hope, healing and health. Every person who is a member of the nursing profession has, simply put, cared for all of us.

In turn, we can honor them by celebrating this as the Year of the Nurse. If ever there was a time to honor nurses, this is it.

To all nurses, thank you for everything you have done and for everything you continue to do.



BJ Gilmore, BSN, MSM, NEA-BC
Chief Nursing Officer
Vice President - Patient Care Services



Laurie L. Smith, MSN, RN, NEA-BC
Chief Nursing Officer

MEET THIS YEAR'S HONOREES

RUTH ANDERSON

BSN, RNC

SCL HEALTH - ST. VINCENT HEALTHCARE

NURSING PROGRAM: Harris College of Nursing at Texas Christian University

FOCUS: Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) and Flight Nurse

YEARS OF SERVICE: 20

By JENNIFER L. MASON,
Brand Ave. Studios Contributing Writer

Many students entering college haven't declared a major or a career path — and that's OK. Everything comes with time and Ruth Anderson can attest to that. She was enrolled in college taking her general courses and wasn't committed to any particular area of study.

Living in Texas at the time, Anderson started volunteering at a children's hospital in Fort Worth. She worked with a program called Parents Night Out where parents were able to escape for a little bit of respite while their child was in the good hands of a volunteer such as Anderson.

"I would go and sit with the patients while the parents took a break," Anderson said. "I remember observing the nurses and getting to know them. It was during this period of volunteering that it hit me, and I knew I wanted to be a nurse. Ironically, my first job after receiving my nursing degree was working at that hospital in Fort Worth."

Anderson has always been a neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) nurse, and she's been at St. Vincent's for the last 17 years. She enjoys teaching parents how to hold their delicate little baby for the first time, take their temperature or change their diaper. Anderson emphasizes it's not the same as handling a baby of healthy weight.

"We are never part of anyone's birth plan," Anderson said. "These tiny babies need a lot of extra care. They have monitors, wires and extra equipment . . . in the beginning, parents are sometimes so nervous to touch their baby. I love teaching and encouraging the parents."

Anderson not only helps babies and parents in the NICU but she's also one of the very few HELP (Helicopter Emergency Lifesaving Program) Flight nurses. As a flight nurse, she helps transport seriously ill or injured babies 12 pounds or two months and under back to Billings to receive a higher level of care.

"When I'm working in the NICU I'm on call for flights and then I also pick up so many hours outside of my NICU shifts," Anderson said. "Some of the outlying communities don't have the facilities to provide critical care for babies. So we fly out, stabilize them and bring them here."

Anderson considers being part of the flight team her greatest accomplishment. An advocate for her patients in the air and the NICU, she realizes every patient and family is different and requires personalized treatment. "I'm an advocate for my patients and families and meet them where they are."

"Ruth truly embodies nursing and puts her skills and strengths into action for the tiniest and sickest babies all over our region as a NICU flight nurse," said Tina Stinson, manager of NICU. "She is invested in the nursing practice and can complete intricate skills on the smallest of babies in challenging situations, yet still has a gentle and comforting touch for new families."



MIKE CLARK, Billings Gazette

“Ruth truly embodies nursing and puts her skills and strengths into action for the tiniest and sickest babies all over our region as a NICU flight nurse.”

TINA STINSON, MANAGER OF NICU



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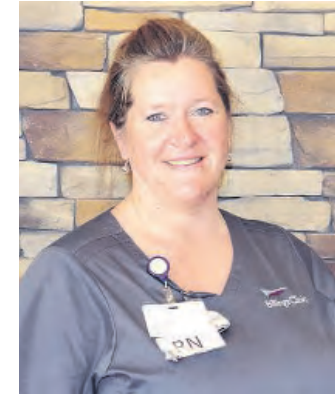
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MEET THIS YEAR'S HONOREES

CARMEN COX

BSN, RN
ST. JOHN'S UNITED

NURSING PROGRAM: Montana State University-Billings

FOCUS: Assisted Living/Geriatrics

YEARS OF SERVICE: 10

By **JENNIFER L. MASON**

Brand Ave. Studios Contributing Writer

Nursing continues to attract a growing number of nontraditional students. Carmen Cox, a registered nurse at St. John's United was one of those students. She had an inkling she wanted to be a nurse right out of high school and thus, she worked as a certified nursing assistant (CNA) for a time.

"I worked as a CNA for a bit and then life just sort of happened," Cox said. "I focused on having a family and other things, but then I had a friend who started working at St. John's as a CNA and she absolutely loved it. And that sort of drew me back in. I applied and started working at St. John's as a CNA and loved it, too. That passion and drive inspired me to go to school to become a licensed practical nurse."

Ten years and a couple of different positions later, Cox remains at St. John's and recently wrapped up another round of education — she received her Bachelor of Science degree in nursing last month.

Working in geriatrics was at the top of her list. Cox enjoys forming relationships with her patients and truly getting to know them. She said it feels like home.

"I have so many grandma and grandpas working in assisted and independent living," Cox said. "In some areas of nursing you may only have a patient for a day or two, but I get to know each of my patients on a family-type basis."

Keeping the golden rule in mind, it's easy for Cox to think about her grandparents and how she would want them to be treated in a similar environment. It's also made possible when her mission is the same as her employer: to treat people with hope, dignity and love.

Those qualities were especially crucial to possess throughout the pandemic. Seniors are often lonely considering their living arrangements or medical circumstances, but the isolation they experienced during the height of COVID was unbearable at times.

"It was hard on our residents and the staff," Cox said. "Our residents couldn't dine together, have visitors or family . . . they were stuck in their apartments for large periods of time. It made our interactions with them even more important."

When asked about how she persevered through such challenging times, Cox attributed her resilience to the commonality of nurses being like warriors and simply pushing through. "I also leaned on my support system and had to find ways to take care of myself."

Before COVID, during and moving forward, Cox strives to listen thoughtfully to each of her residents and let them guide what their needs and desires are. She is beyond committed to their healing, meaning and purpose in life.

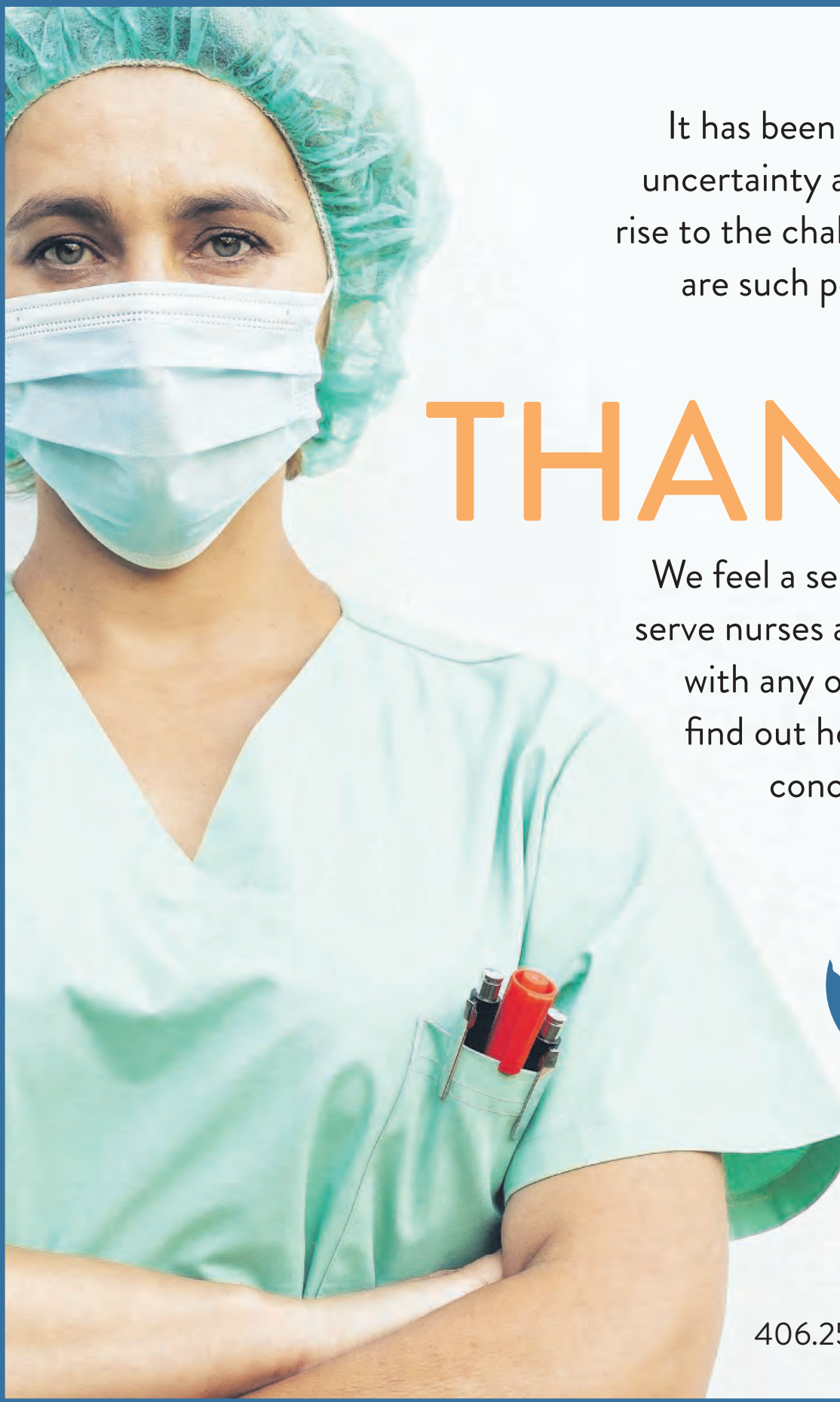
"COVID stretched many nurses and only made us stronger," Cox said.



LARRY MAYER Billings Gazette

“I have so many grandma and grandpas working in assisted and independent living. In some areas of nursing you may only have a patient for a day or two, but I get to know each of my patients on a family-type basis.”

CARMEN COX

A healthcare worker, likely a nurse, is shown from the chest up. She is wearing a light blue surgical cap, a white face mask, and light blue scrubs. Her arms are crossed, and a red pen is visible in her left pocket. The background is a soft, out-of-focus white.

It has been an extraordinary year. In times of uncertainty and adversity, there are some that rise to the challenge. Without any doubt, nurses are such people. In a time of need, you have stepped up admirably.

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MEET THIS YEAR'S HONOREES

MELISSA DONAHUE

BSN, RN • SCL HEALTH - ST. VINCENT HEALTHCARE

NURSING PROGRAM: Montana State University-Billings • **FOCUS:** Intensive Care Unit (ICU) • **YEARS OF SERVICE:** 16

By **JENNIFER L. MASON** | BRAND AVE. STUDIOS CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Becoming a mom was the deciding factor in attending nursing school for Melissa Donahue.

"Strangely enough, I was considering cosmetology school or nursing school at the time," Donahue said. "I never finished my degree back in the day."

She began her career in the intensive care unit (ICU) as a new graduate at St. Vincent's and has never looked back. Today, Donahue serves as clinical supervisor over the ICU. She considers her nursing degree one of her greatest accomplishments with two children at home.

"The last part of nursing school is super intense," Donahue said. "You're up late at night doing care plans among other things. It's quite a feat to do with a family."

It's that passion and positive energy that help steer the way for Donahue each shift. She said whenever she walks into the ICU, her personal life goes on hold and she chooses to be present and intentional with her patients and colleagues.

"I hope to be an inspiration and positive role model for others," Donahue said. "It's necessary to set aside your personal life for 12 hours and hopefully,



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“I hope to be an inspiration and positive role model for others. It’s necessary to set aside your personal life for 12 hours and hopefully, I’m inspiring my coworkers to do the same. It’s only 12 hours.”

MELISSA DONAHUE

I’m inspiring my coworkers to do the same. It’s only 12 hours.”

Donahue expressed how these same colleagues have become some of her closest friends even outside of work. She relied on these coworkers as well on her personal relationship with Jesus to get her through the stress of the pandemic.

“It was a traumatic time for sure,” Donahue said. “A large amount of stress and dying was taking place. But with Jesus, my husband and my tribe of friends . . . I was able to feel supported and carry on and come back refueled the next day.”



RYAN BERRY, Billings Gazette



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MEET THIS YEAR'S HONOREES

RAELYNN HARRIS

RN

THE SPRINGS AT GRAND PARK

NURSING PROGRAM: Miles Community College

FOCUS: Geriatrics/Hospice

YEARS OF SERVICE: 12

By JENNIFER L. MASON

Brand Ave. Studios Contributing Writer

Raelynn Harris, director of health services at The Springs at Grand Park, had the idea of being a nurse in high school. She didn't know it at the time, but her dad would serve a role in directing her career path. Diagnosed with Alzheimer's at 52, Harris and her family cared for him at home for several years.

"I don't know why, but I ignored the idea of nursing and went to Spokane, Washington to attend travel and tourism school," Harris said.

Armed with degrees in travel and business, Harris headed home for a short break to save some money. She planned to move to Seattle and become a travel agent. Harris hired on at the local hospital as a part-time CNA and never looked back.

When her mom was no longer able to care for her dad at home, they moved him to a nursing home. It was then that Harris decided to pursue a nursing career.

"I knew there had to be a better way of Alzheimer's patients receiving care and I wanted to be a part of that," Harris said. "I also know what it's like as the family member and not receiving the education or knowing everything that goes along with caring for someone with Alzheimer's."

With a love for geriatrics, Harris is in her element at The Springs at Grand Park where they offer assisted living and memory care. She doesn't consider her role a job in the least, but more of a privilege. Harris shared how the residents bring her just as much joy as she hopes she does for them.

"I can't believe they pay me to do something I love so much," Harris said. "The wisdom they have and the stories they tell are amazing. My residents deserve all the dignity, respect and love."

Harris hated seeing her residents become depressed this past year during the pandemic. She said the isolation felt like years instead of months. It was a time where everyone came together with a lot of imagination, patience and teamwork.

"I would do their hair, paint their nails . . . anything where they could receive a little extra human contact," Harris said. "There was a time when friends and family could only look at each other through windows for a visit . . . it makes me cry just thinking about it. You could see the emotions they felt by looking at each other through a window. It was extremely tough."

Harris acknowledged she valued teamwork before, but now it's a treasure. She said everyone jumped in where needed; it took every single person to get through the pandemic.

"We could not ask for a better nurse and leader, especially during the pandemic this past year," said Jessica Zander, executive director. "She has developed countless, wonderful relationships with her staff, the residents and their family members. Raelynn consistently goes above and beyond."



LARRY MAYER Billings Gazette

“We could not ask for a better nurse and leader, especially during the pandemic this past year. She has developed countless, wonderful relationships with her staff, the residents and their family members. Raelynn consistently goes above and beyond.”

JESSICA ZANDER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



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Nurses are always on the front lines of health care.

But with COVID-19 – there isn't a single community in Montana that would have made it through the pandemic without nurses. Thank you to every nurse – for all you do every day, and for all you have done to help us navigate this crisis.

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RETURNING THE GIFT OF LIFE

Oncology nurse receives COVID-19 vaccine from her nurse daughter

HEIDI STEVENS | CHICAGO TRIBUNE

As soon as the COVID-19 vaccine became available to her department, Lynn Griesmaier, nurse coordinator for breast medical oncology at Northwestern Memorial Hospital, jumped at the opportunity.

"I took the first available spot," Griesmaier said. "I said, 'I'll go anywhere, at any time.'"

As soon as administering the COVID-19 vaccine became an option, nurse Lizzy Murphy, education coordinator at Northwestern Memorial Hospital, jumped at the opportunity.

"We're just so excited to have a vaccine," Murphy said. "I was like, 'As many hands as they need. Let's get this in people's arms.'"

Griesmaier signed up to receive her first dose of the vaccine at 9 a.m. on Dec. 18. Murphy signed up to work one of Northwestern's vaccine tables all day on Dec. 18.

Griesmaier is Murphy's mom. The two have leaned on each other and drawn strength from each other and shared tears and the occasional lunch (when there's time) and rides to work (masked, with the car windows down) as the novel coronavirus crashed through our lives, infecting more than 1 million Illinoisans.

"At the beginning I was keeping a log, 'How many patient exposures do you

think you had today?'" Griesmaier said. "And then I was checking it against the statistics on TV. I mean, it was nuts. I was really so worried about how things were going for her."

Griesmaier was in awe, she said, of her daughter's calm, and her lightning-fast mastery of COVID-19 protocols and personal protective equipment needs and severe respiratory illnesses.

"I've been a nurse for a very long time," Griesmaier said. (Forty years, to be exact.) "I just kept thinking, 'How does she know all of this? How is she doing all of this?'"

Working at the same hospital was a tremendous relief, Griesmaier said.

"Not only because I had such confidence in her," she said. "But because I still felt like I could make sure she's OK."

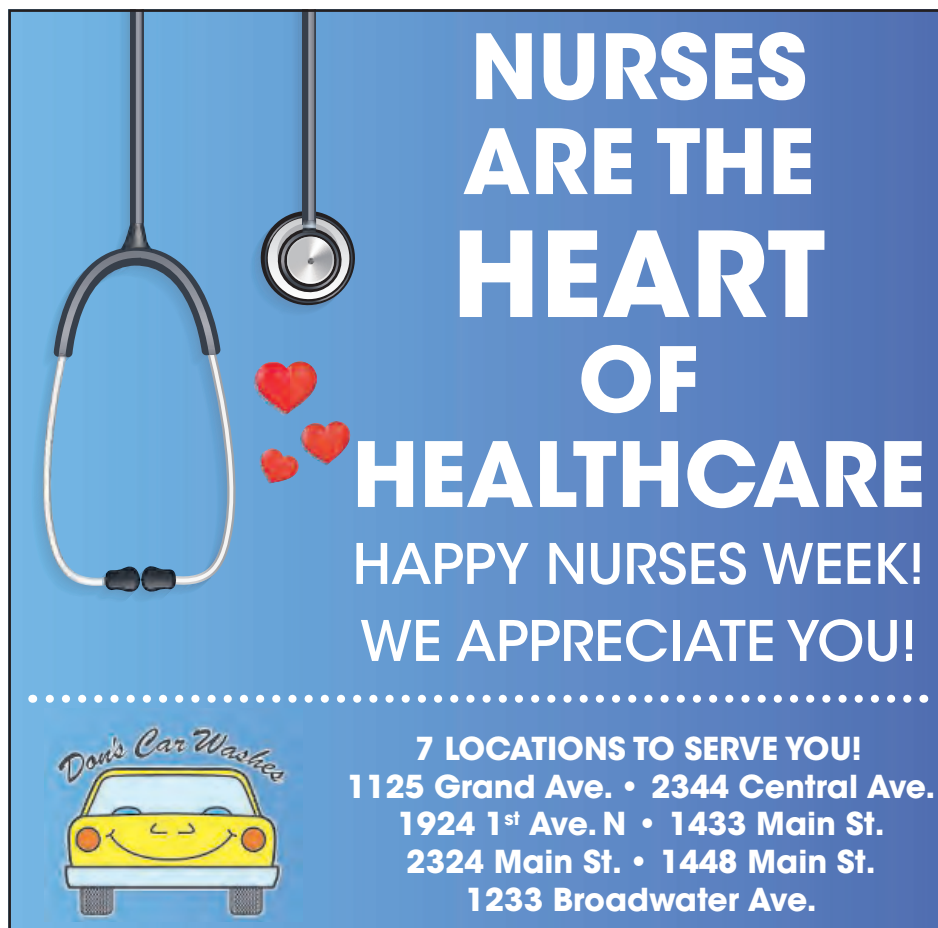
Murphy was supposed to get married on May 30. She and her mom had been planning the big wedding for more than a year.

"At the beginning it was like, 'It's going to be fine by May,'" Murphy said. "And then the realization of it all finally hit us. So that emotional side of canceling your wedding, my mom was there for all of it."

And then, as the year like no other drew to a close, a vaccine arrived.

And Griesmaier was scheduled to receive it on the day her daughter was scheduled to administer it.

"I knew my mom was coming that day,



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Registered nurse Lizzy Murphy, above left, asks questions as she checks in her mother, fellow nurse Lynn Griesmaier, below right, before giving her the second dose of COVID-19 vaccination at Northwestern Memorial Hospital in Chicago on Jan. 8.

but there were 18 stations,” Murphy said. “The chances of all of it happening just right ...”

Murphy had received her first dose Dec. 17, the day before her mom was scheduled to receive hers. Murphy knew the drill, and she also knew the emotions. Griesmaier felt them all, the moment she walked into the hospital to receive her shot.

“It felt so reverent,” Griesmaier said. “I’m just so grateful we’re getting to do this. I was in awe of the moment.”

Then Murphy’s table had an opening. And it was Griesmaier’s turn.

“I thought, ‘I gave birth to her. And she’s going to keep me alive,’” Griesmaier said.

Murphy administered the shot, which Griesmaier says she barely felt. On Friday, three weeks after that first shot, Murphy administered her mom’s second dose.

“It feels sort of full circle,” Murphy said. “I wouldn’t be a nurse without my mom. I owe my work ethic and everything and the opportunity to go to nursing school and have a great education to my parents.”

“I always feel like I can never repay her for everything she’s done for me,” Murphy continued. “This I feel like is the greatest gift I could give her.”

“I’m just so proud of her,” Griesmaier said. “She’s done such beautiful work. Her heart is just — she’s a nurse, true and true. And it’s just amazing. Here’s your child. Here’s your daughter. How this all came together, it’s just amazing.”

Griesmaier helps patients who’ve been



**‘I gave birth to her.
And she’s going to
keep me alive.’**

diagnosed with breast cancer. She sees fear and hope every workday, pre- and midpandemic.

“I’m just amazed at the resilience,” she said. “The strength and courage that my patients have and their families have, I’m always just amazed.”

The arrival of this vaccine, she said, gives her hope for their futures, for their ability to ward off a dangerous virus while their immune systems are already severely taxed.

“It’s a good powerful moment between us,” Murphy said. “And it’s also a sense of hope that we’re all moving in the right direction.”

NATIONAL NURSES WEEK

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THANK YOUR NURSING STAFF

The nurse profession is a fast-paced, stressful occupation that can take a toll on its workers.

If you serve in an administrative role at a health care facility or simply admire the hardworking medical workers in your community, saying thank you can help inspire nurses. Here are some ideas to show your gratitude and help nurses keep a smile on their faces.

Meal delivery

As a nurse working long hours, the next meal isn't always guaranteed. Professionals sometimes find themselves without ample time to grab their favorite lunch or dinner and substitute it with a quick snack. To show thanks, work with a local catering service or diner to bring in various options. If you're unsure about the staff's favorite meals, ask around to get a general idea of popular cuisine.

Once everything is in place, it's a good idea to alert those involved so they can plan to forego bringing their own lunch and enjoying a catered meal. Another good option is to supply the nurses with gift cards to local eateries. This will allow them to spend time with their friends or family while eating on their own time.

Make their dedication known

While most nurses humbly strive to provide optimal care for patients without recognition, sometimes, a kind word or acknowledgment can help enhance their performance. Consider dedicating a corner in the break room with a gratitude board where facility workers can share feedback about their



coworkers' commitment. Not only will nurses feel satisfied with the comments that showcase

their dedication, but they can feel appreciated by their peers, which can help build relationships.

Support their mental health

A health care setting can be damaging to the mental health of the people working in the facility. You can show your support by setting aside time for a few beneficial exercises or by gifting certificates for a local fitness center. Here are some ideas that can promote better emotional health.

- Dedicate a time of day where the nursing staff partakes in meditation.
- Offer virtual or physical yoga classes to decrease stress hormones and reduce anxiety.
- Offer ways for nurses to earn time off by achieving goals that they set.

Help your nurses avoid burnout by ensuring their mental health is in peak condition, even in a stressful setting.



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MEET THIS YEAR'S HONOREES

CRYSTAL HOLY CROSS

RN, CMSRN

SCL HEALTH - ST. VINCENT HEALTHCARE

NURSING PROGRAM: Montana State University-Billings

FOCUS: Medical-Surgical Oncology

YEARS OF SERVICE: 6.5

By JENNIFER L. MASON

Brand Ave. Studios Contributing Writer

A helper from the start, Crystal Holy Cross knew at an early age she wanted to be in a profession where she helped people. "I have a cousin who has cerebral palsy," Holy Cross said. "I loved spending my summers with him. I remember helping him eat and sitting and talking with him. I enjoyed caring for him."

While she never wondered what she would do after growing up, Holy Cross did not take up nursing right away. She began her career as the owner of an excavation company for 11 years. Although the machines did most of the work, she emphasized there was still labor-intensive work that had to be done beforehand.

"I realized that I wasn't going to be able to lift as much one day," Holy Cross said. "I knew it was time to look for something different, and I kept reflecting on my childhood. I always had a passion to help others but never pursued it."

While attending nursing school, she continued to perform excavation work. Even after becoming a nurse, Holy Cross continued excavating on her days off from the hospital for three years.

Upon graduating, her first job was on the medical-surgical oncology floor. She wasn't sure she would stay in oncology; however, she fell in love with it and never left. Today, Holy Cross works as a clinical supervisor on the medical-surgical oncology floor where she enjoys making connections with her patients.

Known for being a hand-holder, she listens delicately to each of her patients with compassion. Hardworking and helpful — Holy Cross also inspires others through her positivity. "I love being available to my patients and forming a personal connection," Holy Cross said. "All I want to do is help them have a better day."

It's hard enough to create positive energy for an oncology patient but during a pandemic, it was trying. Holy Cross emphasized her pursuit to be more available to patients and family members during times of isolation.

"It makes you realize how quickly we can lose somebody," Holy Cross said. "For me, being present with my patients was more important than checking off a list of tasks just to have your shift be over. Sure, the pandemic was trying, and we all had tough cases and many losses. However, I'm driven to help people, pandemic or not."

Crystal's manager can attest to her drive. "She will do anything for anyone and puts her best foot forward on every project," said Mackenzie Mudd, clinical manager medical oncology. "She's always putting others before herself."



MIKE CLARK, Billings Gazette

“For me, being present with my patients was more important than checking off a list of tasks just to have your shift be over. Sure, the pandemic was trying, and we all had tough cases and many losses. However, I'm driven to help people, pandemic or not.”

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MEET THIS YEAR'S HONOREES

AMY KOLLMANN

BSN, RN BILLINGS CLINIC

NURSING PROGRAM: Montana State University

FOCUS: Emergency Department

YEARS OF SERVICE: 2

By JENNIFER L. MASON

Brand Ave Studios Contributing Writer

Before becoming a registered nurse, Amy Kollmann worked as an EMT. The high-stress environment and the critical care helped set her up with some of the skills needed to handle the emergency department (ED) as a nurse. “I love the fast-paced nature of the job,” Kollmann said. “It’s almost impossible to get bored in the ED and you never know what’s coming through the door next.”

In her short time as a nurse, Kollmann is settling into her team setting. She enjoys the fact that everyone is willing to drop what they’re doing to help with a critical patient or assist with tasks that may require a little extra attention.

She also loves her patients. Kollmann believes listening is a key requirement to showing compassionate care. It keeps her centered and allows her to go above and beyond for her patients.

“I try and take the time to listen and connect with my patients,” Kollmann said. “This not only helps them trust me but it often reveals new details about why they came into the ED that we may not have discovered otherwise.”

Throughout her life, she’s been taught to pursue information, seek new opportunities and continue to always learn. Doing so has allowed her to advocate for her patients, which also led to opportunities to educate them and provide the best possible care.

“This type of mindset was critical during the height of COVID last year,” Kollmann said. “The pandemic forced everyone in nursing to become more creative and find new ways to help our patients when resources were fewer and the staff was leaner. COVID also pushed me to become more educated in certain areas and learn skills that I might not otherwise have used.”

Last year, Kollmann said she had to remind herself to stay focused and remember that as a nurse, she’s needed and being helpful. She also emphasized how important her coworkers are and how much she leaned on them for support.

“The pandemic forced everyone in nursing to become more creative and find new ways to help our patients when resources were fewer and the staff was leaner. COVID also pushed me to become more educated in certain areas and learn skills that I might not otherwise have used.”

AMY KOLLMANN



LARRY MAYER Billings Gazette

FAMOUS NURSES IN HISTORY

Throughout history, nurses have assisted in innovating the healthcare system and saved lives during their careers.

While Florence Nightingale is perhaps the most famous medical worker in the role, many professionals made a difference and advanced the position.

Celebrate the nursing field by learning about some of the most influential people in the industry's past.

Dorothea Dix

Dorothea Lynde Dix served as an advocate to bring a medical spotlight to mental health. According to the American Public Health Association, Dix is credited with playing an instrumental role in the founding or expansion of more than 30 hospitals to treat the mentally ill.

In addition to this essential crusade, she was also a crucial

critic against cruel and neglectful practices toward emotionally sick patients like caging, incarceration and harmful physical restraint. She was a leading figure in international movements that challenged ideas that those with mental issues could not obtain treatment to cure their problems.



Clara Barton

Barton worked as a nurse during the Civil War, where she served as a provider for soldiers who became wounded during a battle. After the war, she used her expertise and knowledge in the medical field to form the American Red Cross in 1881.

The organization was formed when she was at the age of 59, and she would continue to lead the cause for the next 23 years. Barton showcased outstanding features of helping and serving others that eventually led to new paths of volunteerism.

Mary Ezra Mahoney

In 1879, Mahoney became the first African American in the United States to graduate from nursing school and begin a professional career in the field. The National Women's History Museum reports that she focused on private care where she supplied specific needs for individual clients rather than working in the public field.

Mahoney joined the Nurses Associated Alumna of the U.S. and Canada in 1896 before



co-founding the National Association of Colored Graduate Nurses the following year. At the organization's maiden convention, she was voted to be the national chaplain and received a lifetime membership.

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MEET THIS YEAR'S HONOREES

SARAH MARTIN

RN, 68W • BILLINGS CLINIC

NURSING PROGRAM: Montana State University-Billings • **FOCUS:** Emergency Department • **YEARS OF SERVICE:** 3

By **JENNIFER L. MASON** | BRAND AVE. STUDIOS CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Spirited and full of life experiences — that's Sarah Martin. She's had the privilege of working in various roles such as landscaping, house renovation, zookeeper, pizza delivery, combat medic and she even learned how to fly a helicopter.

Upon graduating from high school, Martin accepted a scholarship from the United States Marine Corps at The Ohio State University. After attending for two years, she made the tough but admirable decision to leave because of the "don't ask, don't tell" policy.

"I made a commitment to myself that when the policy was changed or lifted that I'd be one of the first people to go back," Martin said. "Years later, I can remember the policy starting to change; it was around 2011. I looked

within myself and decided my next path would be with the Montana Army National Guard as a combat medic."

During her reflection of her career path, she kept coming back to people. She realized helping people was a passion to her and she thought health care was the best area to fulfill that desire. When asked about emergency medicine versus another field, she attributed her military background and the team effort required.

"Working in the emergency department requires a concentrated team effort to accomplish a goal," Martin said. "I think my military background had a huge influence on deciding which area I worked in. When everybody else runs away, I go towards it."



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“Working in the emergency department requires a concentrated team effort to accomplish a goal. I think my military background had a huge influence on deciding which area I worked in. When everybody else runs away, I go towards it.”

SARAH MARTIN



LARRY MAYER Billings Gazette

“Walking into work and seeing Sarah moving from patient to patient sharing her enthusiasm and zest for life brings joy to my heart every time,” said Lisa Stevens, emergency department education development specialist.

Martin began her nursing career in 2018 at the Billings Clinic and remains there today. She’s still an active combat medic, also known as 68 Whiskey, in the Montana Army National Guard.

As a patient advocate, Martin believes there’s nothing more powerful than the human spirit. She went on to share, “My job is sort of like an experiment in the human condition. We are all so fragile but our human spirit is not. I get to see the best of people on their worst days.”

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Minnesota nurse looks back on a long career with HUMOR

Curt BROWN
(Minneapolis) Star Tribune

On a 20-below-zero night in 1965, nurse Caroline Rosdahl explained to a patient that he couldn't legally leave Hennepin County General Hospital because he was on a psychiatrist hold.

"Next thing I know, he's running down the third-floor hall with me right behind him," she recalled. "He crashed right through the window, landed unhurt on a snow-covered bush and didn't miss a beat — running down 7th Street in downtown Minneapolis."

Rosdahl called police, who asked how to identify the AWOL patient.

"Well, he'll be the only one running with an open-backed hospital gown and paper slippers," she said with a laugh. "It didn't take long before they brought him back."

That's just one of the anecdotes in Rosdahl's new self-published memoir, "The Naked City" — a title inspired by that night in the psych ward. (It's available on Amazon at tinyurl.com/NurseRosdahl).

Rosdahl, 83, recently retired after more than 50 years as a nurse, educator and textbook author. She used her



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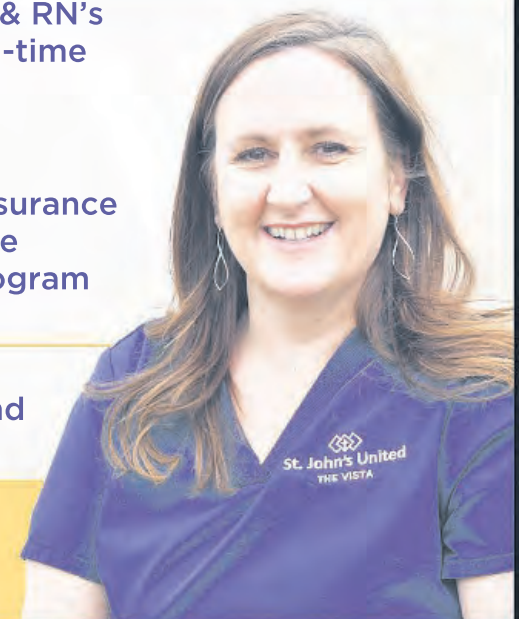
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“If you don’t have a sense of humor, it’s almost impossible to work as a nurse because things often turn so sad.”

CAROLINE ROSDAHL, WHO RECENTLY RETIRED AFTER MORE THAN 50 YEARS AS A NURSE, EDUCATOR AND TEXTBOOK AUTHOR.

pandemic isolation to chronicle a career that started as a teenage nursing aide in her hometown of Sauk Centre, through her years as Wright County’s lone public health nurse in the early 1960s and the ensuing decades on hospital floors from Hennepin County to the University of Minnesota. Her cutting-edge use of behavioral objectives in nursing education in Anoka County led to 11 editions of “Textbook of Basic Nursing” — a widely used tome for student nurses.

“Textbooks are putzy; this project was a lot more fun,” she said from her home in Plymouth.

At a time when appreciation for nurses — and the need to laugh — are both justifiably sky high, Rosdahl’s tales prompt chuckles while offering a firsthand glimpse from health care’s front lines.

There are plenty of awful memories, like an auto mechanic’s blowtorch explosion that left him horribly burned. Or the autopsy she witnessed that revealed a young woman hadn’t been pregnant, but thought she was — dying from drinking too much quinine to induce an abortion in the 1950s before the procedure was legalized.

Her humorous memories offset the heavy stuff. As a school nurse in the northern Minnesota town of Waubun, population about 400, she asked students to fill out index cards with their birth dates, parents’ contact information, allergies and other basic information. In the small box labeled “Sex,” where students were supposed to put “male” or “female,” one girl jotted down: “Once in Waubun.”

Writes Rosdahl: “It was a good thing it was only once, because that space on the card was very small.”

Years later, admitting a woman to the hospital, Rosdahl ran through routine questions about last bowel movements and menstrual periods.

“When I asked her the next question on the list, ‘Are you sexually active?’ she looked around and then looked thoughtfully at the ceiling for several seconds. She then replied, in all seriousness, ‘No, I pretty much just lie there!’”

Humor, Rosdahl insists, is as

important a trait for nurses as compassion and anatomical know-how.

“If you don’t have a sense of humor, it’s almost impossible to work as a nurse because things often turn so sad,” she said.

An only child, Rosdahl was born Caroline Bunker in 1937. Her father, Frank Bunker, dabbled in poetry and served as a Sauk Centre postman. He knew everyone in town — including Sauk Centre’s literary lion, Nobel Prize-winning writer Sinclair Lewis and his father, Dr. E.J. Lewis, a town doctor.

Her introduction to nursing came as she suffered rheumatic fever at age 4. Idolizing her nurse, Mrs. Runion, little Caroline dreamed of following in her “Cuban-heeled white shoes.”

Her father suffered a heart attack when she was 16. The principal pulled her from gym class, but a nun barred her from entering St. Michael’s Hospital because her gym clothes were deemed inappropriate. Quietly seething, she went home to change.

She had applied to be a nursing aide at the hospital, which at the time was hiring only Catholic girls despite its standing as the Sauk Centre community hospital. One of the nuns, soon after the heart attack, called to offer her a job — saying later how the teenager impressed her by staying calm despite her fear and anger. Key nursing attributes.

“I was mad, but I must have been polite because I became the test case — the first Protestant girl hired as a nursing assistant,” Rosdahl said.

She was on her way, literally writing the book on nursing through her popular textbooks. Twice married with one son and three stepchildren, Rosdahl is famous for more than nursing.

She always wanted to play saxophone or clarinet in a marching band, which wasn’t possible for women when she first went to University of Minnesota in the mid-1950s. Back at the U, working on her doctorate in her late 30s, Rosdahl became the band’s elder member in 1975 and still plays the clarinet.



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BILLINGS GAZETTE
C O M M U N I C A T I O N S

MEET THIS YEAR'S HONOREES

NATHAN MOYER

RN, MHA

IHS - NORTHERN CHEYENNE SERVICE UNIT

NURSING PROGRAM: Bethel College

FOCUS: Emergency Department/Incident Commander

YEARS OF SERVICE: 16

By JENNIFER L. MASON

Brand Ave. Studios Contributing Writer

One-and-a-half hours one way is how long it takes Nathan Moyer to commute to the Northern Cheyenne Reservation. It's a time he's been extra thankful for this past year during the pandemic. Along with this quiet time for thinking and mediation, Moyer's personal impact on others also keeps him fueled.

"One of the reasons I fell in love with emergency medicine was because the impact I make on someone's life during a state of crisis is immediate," Moyer said. "It's a profound feeling and what keeps me going in this field."

Moyer first joined the U.S. Public Health Service in 2012 by working for the Indian Health Service agency at the Crow/Northern Cheyenne Hospital. He spent his time there as a staff nurse in the emergency department (ED) and was later manager.

"I was always interested in critical care," Moyer said. "The majority of my career has been spent working in the ED."

In 2017, he transferred to Northern Cheyenne Service Unit, also known as Lame Deer Health Center. A couple of years later and a master's degree in tow, Moyer felt like he needed a change. He was interested in furthering his career but he didn't know what that looked like quite yet.

"I didn't see it as ironic at the time, but in 2019 an opportunity came up that had a dual purpose, and I applied for the position," Moyer said. "The position involved occupational safety and infection prevention and within those, it was also preparing for disasters."

Moyer was humbly describing his new title as incident commander. Much of what he was doing in 2019 was making sure employees were safe, monitoring the spread of disease in the community, and ensuring processes and policies were in place.

"Little did I know that in March of 2020 we would have a global pandemic of an infectious disease and be faced with worse-case scenarios," Moyer said. "It was timely indeed."

For the past couple of years, Moyer has tried to improve at managing change, learn more about strategic planning, and be involved from a leadership perspective. In fact, it was the focus of his master's program.

"It truly was amazing," Moyer said. "Everything I had been pursuing, learning more about and trying to improve upon . . . all of those things were put into a position for me to lead. The past 13 months have been a remarkable opportunity for me to put all of those skills and knowledge into a real scenario to help people in the community."



LARRY MAYER Billings Gazette

“Everything I had been pursuing, learning more about and trying to improve upon . . . all of those things were put into a position for me to lead. The past 13 months have been a remarkable opportunity for me to put all of those skills and knowledge into a real scenario to help people in the community.”

NATHAN MOYER



NURSING SPECIALTIES

After gaining an RN license, many experts expand into more specialty categories that help patients who require more in-depth support.

Check out a few niches that nursing professionals can fill, according to the Nurse Journal organization.

Neonatal nurses

Neonatal nurses are on the frontlines in intensive care units that provide support for infants at risk of complications or in need of specialized care. Some of the conditions in babies that they bear include:

- Premature newborns.
- Cardiac or congenital disabilities.
- Genetic conditions.
- Drug dependency.

Generally, infants receive care until they can leave the hospital. Still, sometimes, further consideration is required and provided by these critical health care experts.

Infection control

Prevention nurses are efficient at identifying and managing infections, diseases and viruses. They work in hospitals, clinics and community health centers. During the COVID-19 pandemic, these professionals filled a vital role in focusing on patient case reporting and widespread infection prevention. They serve as critical advocates who ensure that health care centers are safe and sanitary for both patients and the facility's employees.

Dialysis nurse

Dialysis is a medical process that cleans the blood of patients who struggle with kidney-related diseases. Experts in charge of overseeing the tasks operate equipment that sanitizes the blood and assesses patients' vital signs before and after the procedure. They are also responsible for providing education about medication and aftercare.

Informatics nurse

Hospitals and clinics rely on strict management of healthcare data and communications. Informatic nurses are fluent in computer science, information technology and nursing. They use their training to support providers' efforts by developing medical data and systems that improve overall patient outcomes.

Nurse educator

Many RNs turn their expertise into an academic role to help other nurses advance in their careers. As an educator, experts lead degree programs in a classroom setting or with hands-on training in a medical environment. Their duties include advising students, creating and evaluating curriculum and conducting research. The health care industry is constantly evolving as demand grows and medical needs advance. For nurses, this means there is a need for more specialized care and a chance to further their roles.



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MEET THIS YEAR'S HONOREES

AMY WALTON

BSN, RN, CMSRN, OCN
BILLINGS CLINIC

NURSING PROGRAM: South Dakota State University

FOCUS: Oncology

YEARS OF SERVICE: 24

By JENNIFER L. MASON

Brand Ave. Studios Contributing Writer

A little farming town played a significant role in Amy Walton's career path. As a teenager, she worked as a server in the small community where she lived. At the time, Walton recalled her mom being a licensed practical nurse but she didn't know what that entailed. However, it was clear everyone in town thought highly of her mom and recalled her being an amazing nurse.

"Everyone would always acknowledge me as Elaine's daughter," Walton said. "They would carry on and say how she was an incredible nurse and had such a good heart. I thought — what girl doesn't want to be like their mom? It was during this time that I felt called to become a nurse."

Of her 24 years as a nurse, Walton has worked at the Billings Clinic for the last 21 years. She never dreamed of being an oncology nurse, let alone working in the Inpatient Cancer Care Unit. In fact, it was last on her list, and understandably so.

"I watched my mom die of breast cancer when I was 11 . . . so, I didn't want anything to do with cancer," Walton said. "It wasn't on my radar and it was definitely nothing I wanted to do or be around."

Right out of nursing school, Walton did medical-surgical nursing. When she went to the medical floor and saw the other side of cancer care, her eyes opened to other types of connections. Drawn to the abundance of gratitude the patients displayed and the miraculous healing that sometimes occurred — she realized this was how she was going to help people.

"I was interested in helping people through those tough times," Walton said. "Looking back, it's sort of ironic that I take care of cancer patients now."

She takes pride in treating each cancer patient with individual care. To Walton, they are more than a patient in a bed. She uses humor when appropriate, is the first to hold hands and quick to dry tears. Putting a smile on their face or remembering specific details or likes is a reward in itself to Walton.

"There's not a single patient I can't relate to," Walton said. "The emotions are rough, but I put myself in their situation and connect with the patient."

Former supervisor Leah A. Scaramuzzo shared, "Any patient assigned to Amy will quickly learn she has a heart of gold and a passion to provide the safest, quality care possible." Scaramuzzo, nursing director at Kalispell Regional Healthcare went on to say what a privilege it was to work with Walton. "She makes you proud of the nursing profession."

Walton believes in pursuing your dreams, following your gut and never settling. She said you have to do the hard work, but it's worth it to make your dreams a reality.

"Don't settle for something that you don't want to do," Walton said. "Life is too short to be unhappy. I see patients die every day from cancer. Chase your dreams."



LARRY MAYER Billings Gazette

“Don't settle for something that you don't want to do. Life is too short to be unhappy. I see patients die every day from cancer. Chase your dreams.”

AMY WALTON

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ESTHER WYNNE

BSN, RN, PHN • BIG HORN COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

NURSING PROGRAM: School of Nursing at the Medical College of Georgia • **FOCUS:** Public Health • **YEARS OF SERVICE:** 38

By **JENNIFER L. MASON** | Brand Ave. Studios Contributing Writer

Approaching nearly 40 years of service, Nurse Esther Wynne feels blessed to have been able to follow this particular career path. She takes pride in serving and caring for others at such an intimate level and believes the impact of that care is shown by the trust she elicits from her patients.

Wynne began her medical career as a certified nursing assistant while attending nursing school and did so until she received her nursing license. Before settling in as a public health nurse, Wynne gained a wealth of knowledge in many other areas.

"I worked on the medical-surgical floor back in the 80s," Wynne said. "I saw some amazing cases during my time there including that of an unknown disease, now determined to be AIDS."

She also worked in home health and hospice where she had a real impact on

long-term problems. Wynne felt welcomed into those homes and considered it an honor to connect patients with resources and teach family members about nursing care.

"I also worked in the cardiovascular ICU surgical unit," Wynne said. "Those were exciting times and adrenaline-filled. However, the many patients that we could not save haunted me."

Wynne worked in hospice again after starting a family. However, when she took her infant to the public health nurse (PHN) for a round of vaccinations, the PHN asked her if she would be willing to work part time.

"I said yes," Wynne said. "I started out helping with the vaccination clinics, and then I inherited the childbirth classes, followed by the home-visiting service. Working in public health in Big Horn County has been the best job ever;



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“I started out helping with the vaccination clinics, and then I inherited the childbirth classes, followed by the home-visiting service. Working in public health in Big Horn County has been the best job ever; it’s been a dream come true.”

ESTHER WYNNE

it’s been a dream come true.”

Working in public health means interacting with a variety of people and cases. A public health nurse could be involved in communicable disease investigations, dog bite cases, educating daycare providers about immunizations and reporting possible abuse, breastfeeding support, early childhood coalition work, child and adult vaccinations, promoting dental care, car seat clinics, injury prevention through seatbelt education campaigns and more.

Bill Hodges, public health director said, “Esther has always manifested a committed and dedicated team attitude towards accomplishing any job duties or assignments that benefit the residents of Big Horn County.”

Wynne said to provide compassionate care, it’s critical to talk less and listen more. “For me, nursing is about helping people with the little wins each day.”



LARRY MAYER, Billings Gazette

The Health and Wellbeing of Our Residents, Staff and Communities is Our Top Priority.

Quality Care in Billings, MT

At Aspen Meadows, we offer care options to best suit your needs. Our skilled nursing and rehabilitation unit offers skilled medical care and therapy services after hospitalization. Long-term care is an environment filled with a family of caregivers to provide additional assistance in a skilled setting.

Quality Care in Laurel, MT

At Laurel Health and Rehabilitation Center, we provide a continuum of care that bridges the gap between hospital and home. Whether you are in need of short-term rehabilitation or long-term care, our team works to help you recover and return home. We want to empower you to meet your goals and regain your quality of life.



Aspen Meadows Health & Rehabilitation Center

3155 Avenue C • Billings • 406.656.8818

www.empres.com/location/aspen-meadows-health-rehab/

Laurel Health & Rehabilitation Center

820 3rd Avenue • Laurel • 406.628.8251

www.empres.com/location/laurel-health-rehab-center/

ABOUT THE JUDGES

Susan Floyd MSN RN, Nursing Director, City College MSU Billings

I went to Helena Vocational Technical School for Practical Nursing in 1979. I graduated from MSU Bozeman in 1985 with my BSN. I graduated from University of Wyoming in 2012 with my MS in Nursing Education. I have been a Certified Medical Surgical Nurse. I started out working at Billings Clinic. I have worked in cardiology, orthopedics, neuro, and resource. I later worked at SVH as a telemedicine nurse and relief at Internal Medicine Associates. I started as a faculty member at MSUB in 1990 and became the nursing director in 2011. In my various roles I have had the opportunity to observe nurses in many settings and experiences of life. Nurses are truly caring, kind, hardworking, dedicated professionals. I love being a nurse. One aspect I miss as a nursing director is the hands-on patient care. It is awesome to help patients progress from low points in their lives to coming out on the other side healthier and more aware of how to stay healthy. I also have thoroughly enjoyed working with nursing students, helping them to become great nurses. It is impossible not to go to a medical facility in the Billings area and not encounter graduates from our program who are exemplary in their profession. I believe whether as a nurse or a teacher, we lead by example and I am proud to have been part of the committee reading about all the wonderful things nurses in our community have accomplished. It was very difficult to narrow it down to 10 as all of them deserve to win as just by being a nurse we are all winners.

Dr. Robert Wilmouth, President at Rocky Mountain College

Dr. Robert Wilmouth is the President at Rocky Mountain College, Billings, Montana. He began serving in this position in January 2013. Previously, Dr. Wilmouth served as the Program Director for the Master of Physician Assistant Studies program for four years and as a faculty member for 13 years at RMC. Dr. Wilmouth earned his bachelor's of arts degree from the University of Notre Dame in psychology and pre-professional studies. Following college, he worked as a marketing representative for the IBM Corporation in the financial branch in Chicago, Illinois. During this time, he also served as a commissioned officer in the Army Reserves Medical Corps. After receiving his doctor of medicine degree from the University of Illinois, he moved to Billings in 1991 and joined the staff of the Billings Clinic as a cardiothoracic and vascular surgeon. At this time, Dr. Wilmouth became an adjunct professor for the RMC Physician Assistant Studies program, a position he held for 17 years. Dr. Wilmouth served in numerous leadership positions while at the Billings Clinic, including Chief of Cardiac Services and Medical Director. Due to illness, Dr. Wilmouth retired from practicing in 2004 and subsequently served as a faculty member for the Institute for Healthcare Improvement and as a board member for the Mountain Pacific Quality Health Foundation. These positions afforded him opportunities to work throughout the country as a consultant for the "Saving 5 Million Lives" campaign, in which he worked with hospital trustees on board engagement through executive communication.

Becky Anglin MSN, RN, RN to BSN Program Coordinator and Health Care Services Department Chair

Becky Anglin MSN, RN is currently the RN to BSN Program Coordinator, Assistant Professor and Healthcare Services Department Chair at MSU-B. Becky graduated from MSU Bozeman in 2007 with her BSN degree and in June 2021 she will graduate with her Doctorate of Nursing Practice in Educational Leadership. She has been in the health care field for the last 18 years and spent 14 of those years as a nurse in various positions. I started out working as a CNA and then advanced to a nurse and charge nurse. I have worked in orthopedics, labor and delivery, long-term care, and youth addiction. For the last 7 years, Becky has been working in nursing education at MSU-B. My love in nursing education has helped many students complete their degree and become caring and compassionate nurses. Even though, I am no longer at the bedside setting making a difference in patients lives, I feel as though I am still playing an active role by educating our nurses. Becky also was named the Year of the Nurse Scholar recipient in January of 2021. It was an honor to be named a recipient and I am very thankful for the recognition. I truly love nursing and am very passionate about helping others fulfill their dream of becoming a nurse.

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PAST HONOREES

2019

Celeste Bonnacarrere
Jeannine Brant
Joyce Engelhardt
Diane Jones
Jennifer Keck
Bev Kovanda
Nicole Lauwers
Carly May
June Minchow
Laura Sorenson

2020

Crystal Bouchard
Ryan Carroll
Angie Dunn
Angela Higgins
Rebecca Lee
Stacy Parker
Kaycee Parks
Brocade Stops Balck Eagle
Kayla Vowell
Katie Wislon



2021 NOMINEES

Nominee	Place of Work	Nominee	Place of Work	Nominee	Place of Work
Amy Goltz	SCL Health St. Vincent	Holly Gaughan-Soto	SCL Health St. Vincent	Pamela Debartolo	Billings Clinic
Amy McManus	St Vincent Healthcare Internal Medicine & Diabetes	Hope Cicero	Billings Clinic	Paula Harttlet	SCL Health St. Vincent
Andrea Hayes	St Johns United	Jen Gates	Billings Clinic	Rhonda Brinkman	Deaconess Dialysis Center
Angie Dunn	St Johns United	Jennifer Suko	St Johns United	Riley Stoudt	SCL Health St. Vincent
Beth Brosam	Stillwater Billings Clinic	Jessica Wardell	Billings Clinic	Rolo and Marla	St Vincent Healthcare Internal Medicine and Diabetes
Brad Vonbergen	Billings Clinic	Joan Ferguson	Billings Clinic	Samantha Alyn Andersen	SCL Health St. Vincent
Brooke Forsythe	SCL Health St. Vincent	Joey traywick	SCL Health St. Vincent	Sandy Scott	SCL Health Medical Group-Billings Diabetes Center
Callie Vermandel	Billings Clinic	Jonilyn Olson	SCL Health St. Vincent	Sara Anguiano	Billings Clinic
Cameron Parker	Billings Clinic	Karen Lorash	SCL Health St. Vincent	StaCee Isakson	Billings Clinic
Cara Fairbanks	Billings Clinic	Kari Fox	Advanced Care Hospital	Stacey D'Ambrosia	SCL Health St. Vincent
Cassidy Ketterling	Billings Clinic	Kassie Klemann Leaphart	SCL Health St. Vincent	Susan Kienitz	Billings Clinic
Cassy Bays	SCL Health St. Vincent	Kelly Prettyweasel	Big Horn Hospital	Susan Schneider	Billings Clinic
Cheyenne Pegar	Billings Clinic	Kimberly Sweeney	SCL Health St. Vincent	Terri Shelton	Billings Clinic
Christiane Sikora	St Vincent Healthcare Internal Medicine and Diabetes	Kristen L	Retired	Trae Dolan	Billings Clinic
Christina Schye	Billings Clinic	Kristin Klebe	Billings Clinic	Zoey Hallam	Billings Clinic
Cortney Smith	Billings Clinic	Kyle Gibson	Stat Air		
Crystal Bouchard	Billings Clinic	Kyle Snyder	Billings Clinic		
Darlene DeCock	Billings Clinic	Laura Gordon	Billings Clinic		
DeAnna Dodge	Billings Clinic	Laura Sorenson	Billings Clinic		
Doreen Amundsen	SCL Health St. Vincent	Lisa Leikam	Billings Clinic		
Ellen Edlund	Billings Clinic	Liz Lamdin	Billings Clinic		
Emily Pester	SCL Health St. Vincent	LuAnn Birdwell	Billings Clinic		
Garnee Erickson	Glendive Medical Center	Mara Brewster	Billings Clinic		
Harlie Kane	Billings Clinic	Marcy Eschler	Bella Terra		
Hayley Kraft	SCL Health St. Vincent	Margaret "Marj" O'Reilly	SCL Health St. Vincent		
Heidi Gildroy	Billings Clinic	Mary Goldammer	Billings Clinic		
		Megan Sinclair	B.leaf Aesthetic Clinic		
		Michelle Molina	SCL Health St. Vincent		
		Natasha Sailer	Stillwater Billings Clinic		
		Nichole Larson	Billings Clinic		
		Pam Berens	Billings Clinic		



Celebrating **NURSES WEEK** — MAY 6-12 —



In honor of Nurses Week, we proudly celebrate the efforts of the many outstanding nurses who make what we do at St. Vincent Healthcare possible. Working with our doctors, advanced care professionals and staff, they do an exceptional job in meeting the health and wellness needs of the individuals and families across our region. Join us in celebrating nurses this week, and always.



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