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THE STUDENT NURSE

VOLUME 1 ISSUE 2

MAY, 1997

" NO ONE CARES HOW MUCH YOU KNOW, UNTIL THEY KNOW HOW MUCH YOU CARE."

A JOURNEY BEGINS

Two years ago, many of the graduating 1997 Associate Degree nursing class did not know each other; now we will never forget each other.

Together we have struggled, studied, laughed, and cried our way through a demanding regimen of classes that almost seem a blur to us at this point! On one hand it feels like "only yesterday" we entered Nursing 101. On the other hand, it feels like a year since this last semester began.

Many of us are still debating what to do when we pass that NCLEX-RN, while others have jobs already waiting! Stacey Rouse and Traci Groce are interested in home health. Holli Scott plans to be a staff nurse at Cumberland County Hospital in Burkesville, Tammy Childress plans to eventually work in CCU, and Mesha Pendley and Heather Nason both hope to work in Labor & Delivery. Debbie Browning especially enjoys surgery and psych nursing while Patricia Keen's interests are GI medicine and the emergency room.

Dana Joiner and Pam Cleveland hope to work in Med-Surg and Pam is also interested in home health. Dale Burch would like to work in out-patient procedures or surgical recovery. Surgery or CCU is where LaDonna Killebrew hopes to be and Jennifer Holt enjoys obstetrics or psychiatric nursing.

Tina Reece likes the ER, but has aspirations to be in stat flight nursing. Stephanie Reynolds currently working at Medplex, may continue to work here for about six months and then move to Lexington to work on her Master's Degree.

Kevin Taylor and Heather Woodward are both working as student nurses in the ICU at The Medical Center here in Bowling Green. While Kevin would like to continue to work in ICU after graduation, Heather hopes to make the leap to Neonatal Intensive Care.

Donna Brown would like to work at Graves-Gilbert Clinic or the Health Department here in Bowling Green. She is also interested in working with dialysis patients. Rayner England plans to work at The Medical Center in Bowling Green. She loves ICU and hope to work there or with telemetry/cardiac patients.

Kristi Staples is currently a CNA at Medplex and hopes to continue to work there "prn" when she graduates. She hopes to work full-time for about a year on a Med-Surg floor, then explore other areas of nursing such as home health or surgery.

Donna Blakely is employed as a tech at Monroe Health Care Facility, which is a nursing home. A job is waiting for her there, but she also enjoys psychiatric nursing.

Teresa Rowlett is moving to Chicago, Illinois and hopes to get a job at a teaching facility, Northwestern University Hospital. She expects to refine her skills on a Med-Surg unit and then move on to explore many other areas of nursing.

I hope to work in the nursery and obstetrical area, or possibly in pediatrics (Children's Hospital) at Vanderbilt University Medical Center in Nashville, TN.

Regardless of the diversity of our plans, I know one thing we all have in common - looking forward to our Pinning Ceremony in May! Many of us will keep in touch with lifelong friends we have made here in school and we certainly won't forget those instructors who were guides to us on this journey toward our goal of graduating from WKU School of Nursing. As we reach the end of this pathway, we know it is only the beginning of another. After graduation and testing as Registered Nurses, a new and exciting journey will have just begun.

- - Peggy Swann, ADRN, Spring Class of 1997

WE HAVE ALMOST BUILT OUR BRIDGE

We all remember that first day in Nursing 200. There were 41 people with diverse backgrounds finding their seats in a room mixed with familiar faces from general education classes to complete strangers. Some were married, some had children, some already had one college degree, some recently graduated from high school, and one was from another country; but we had all assembled to achieve a common goal. We had no idea what the next three years would hold; we were anxious and excited.

Friendships began to develop, we started to study together. Chapters were read, skills were practiced and tests were passed. As time went on, there were fewer and fewer of that original 41. Some decided that Nursing wasn't for them, some had conflicting interests in their personal life, and some didn't pass the classes. We continued to read, practice, study, and have some fun. As the semesters passed we began getting closer to one another. Close and life-long friendships formed. Several people in the class became roommates. We welcomed RN's into our class. They brought lots of knowledge and wisdom with them.

There are only a few weeks until graduation. I believe there will be many great nurses to graduate from the B.S.N. Class of 1997. It will be very sad not seeing the people you've cried with, had a great time with, and learned to love. We will soon be memories on the famous Nursing hall walls. We've almost found our flower and built that notorious bridge.

-- Dana R. Carpenter, BSN Class of 1997

TO OUR GRADUATES FROM THE FACULTY:

To you the
Best wishes to all!
Wanda Cullom

Good Luck!
Blackburn

We are so proud
of you!
James Brown

Good luck & thank
you!
Kenda Nelson

Congratulate!
Best Wishes
Deborah Williams

Congratulations!
Kanda Kelly

Congratulations!
Remember your
challenge - keep
moving forward in the 21st Century!
Beverly Sugrout

Best Wishes
Carole Morgan

Congratulations!
McKenzie



May all
your dreams
come true.
Kay Cash

Keep on plugging
make us proud!
Jimmie Williams

Good luck in your nursing career. Best wishes, H. Lehmann
Venus Rouse

Remember, while burning the midnight oil studying for finals,
rest is so small part!
B. Strick

Take time to care for yourselves - that you may care
for others
Sue Ryan

Good luck
Sue Ryan