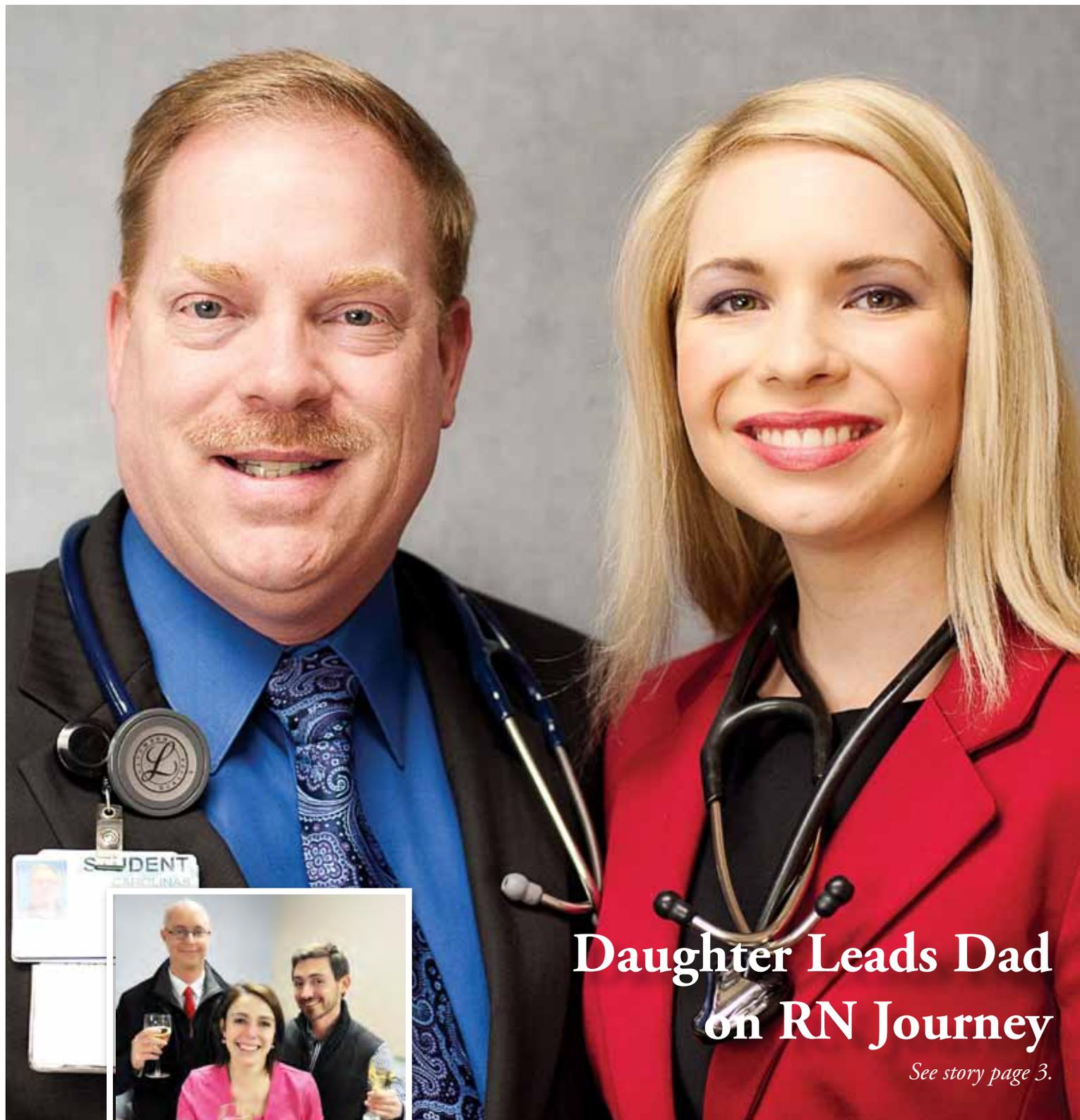


CONNECTIONS

a publication for alumni and friends of Carolinas College of Health Sciences

Summer 2013



Daughter Leads Dad on RN Journey

See story page 3.

Announcing the new Young Alumni Council!

See page 7 for details.

President's NOTE

Ellen.Sheppard@CarolinasCollege.edu



Dear Alumni and Friends:

Much is happening at Carolinas College. A few high points...

FAREWELL, DEAR PINK WALLS: In 1994 CCHS moved into the remodeled Rankin Building on the CMC campus. The dusty rose wallcovering and blue & mauve carpet were high fashion. Through the next 19 years furniture changed, carpet was replaced, and we expanded into more Rankin space. But ever-present were our pink walls. Now we're in the midst of an aesthetic upfit. A modern, nature-inspired palette of taupe, green, soft blue, and brown will echo on each hallway and in every classroom. We've loved you, pink walls, but we're glad to see you go! Watch for the before and after shots on Facebook, and come see our new look this fall!

ONLINE EDUCATION IS HERE: Regardless of your position on online education, one thing's certain... it's here! Many of today's students love it; it reduces classroom space limitations; it makes courses more accessible; it saves time and money, and gas; and – when the instructor is talented – it is engaging and effective. Our first foray into online education was in the late 90's via "hybrid" (computer enhanced) classes. Now up to 50% of some for-credit programs is delivered online. We're offering three fully online non-credit programs: Blood Banking Specialist, Anesthesia Technician, and A&P Refresher. Our goal is to continue growing high quality, highly effective on-line courses which meet our students' needs. Be proud that your alma mater is harnessing technology to make education better.

TEAMWORK BECOMES INTERPROFESSIONAL COMPETENCY BUILDING: Strong teams provide better healthcare, so educators have long focused on communication skills. In 2013 we went a step further – we incorporated interprofessional competency building into our programs so healthcare professionals could better know one another's roles, skills, and abilities. The desired outcome? A climate of trust and efficient skill optimization. One example: A Children's Miracle Network grant is funding an opportunity for Rad Techs and Nursing students to attend lectures together, discuss how their roles in patient care intersect, and then use simulation to practice delivering care together. Another example: Surg tech students and laparoscopic surgical residents now occasionally learn and practice together, so they more fully understand and respect one another's roles. The impact on care delivery will be dramatic.

VIRTUAL CARE'S NO LONGER IN OUR FUTURE; IT'S HERE NOW! Page 20 of last Summer's *Connections* (www.carolinashealthcare.org/documents/cchs/newsletters) forecasted a day when physicians and nurses located in high tech "bunkers" would use technology to have "eyes and ears" in multiple hospitals and on multiple units at once, supporting the on-site care teams. When Carolinas HealthCare System's Virtual Care services debuted last month, the future arrived, and health care improved by a quantum leap. Now the same medical talent is available to rural facilities as to urban trauma centers. It sure isn't Kansas, Toto!

As this issue of *Connections* goes to press, we've already accumulated features for the next edition: spring capping/pinning (our largest one to date!), graduation (what special students we said goodbye to!), selection of the distinguished alumnus, 50th reunion for the class of 1963, and more. All that will be highlighted in our NEXT edition! Watch for it and remember to notify us of address or email changes!

With warmest regards,

Ellen Sheppard
Ellen Sheppard

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ON THE COVER

Corinna Edwards started nursing school in 2007 when she was just 17, one of CCHS's youngest students ever. So young in fact that her dad, Dan, accompanied her to orientation; he wanted to be sure he was prepared to support her in this journey. Surprise! He caught the bug, and two years later started down the same path - with Corinna providing guidance!
Story, page 3.

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PROGRAM NEWS

school of nursing



by Debbie Blackwell
Deborah.Blackwell@CarolinasCollege.edu

It is spring: a joyous time of the year not only because of the beautiful weather but also because Carolinas College of Health Sciences School of Nursing graduates

another class of wonderful new nurses. This spring, graduation time holds a special meaning for three of our faculty as they graduate from Gardner-Webb University in May with a Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) degree. Faculty members Dana Mangum, Susan Patterson, and Sherri Marlow, Associate Dean for the School of Nursing, started their DNP journey two years ago and have continued to work full-time at Carolinas College. Michele Pfaff started the DNP program at Gardner-Webb University a year later and will graduate with her doctoral degree in May 2014. Susan Bass, Learning Specialist, and Kristy Williams, faculty member and alumna ('00) have been accepted to the program and will start this fall. All have chosen educational leadership as the focus of their program.

As alumni, you no doubt applaud this achievement, but you may be wondering “What exactly is a Doctor of Nursing

Practice (DNP) degree?” The DNP degree is a practice doctorate, whereas the Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing (PhD) is a research doctorate. Nurses holding a PhD are prepared to conduct independent research and to share their findings. Graduates of a DNP program are prepared to improve health outcomes, including patient safety and quality of care, by translating research and other evidence into clinical practice. This educational focus prepares the DNP graduate to assume leadership roles as managers of quality initiatives, executives in healthcare organizations, and directors of clinical and academic programs. There are two DNP programs currently offered in North Carolina - Duke University (initially accredited in 2009) and Gardner-Webb University (accredited in 2012). For nurses with an MSN, both programs are 35-38 credits, taken over six semesters in executive style format with 3-5 days on campus each semester and the remaining course work provided online. Five additional DNP programs are approved to start at North Carolina universities this fall.

Faculty and staff of the school of nursing and the college are proud of the achievements of Susan, Dana, and Sherri. For their program projects, all selected evidenced-based topics which have improved educational experiences for students and faculty at CCHS. So, as they've grow professionally, so has the college grown – thanks to their research and scholarship!

radiologic technology

Faculty members of the radiologic technology program, and the entire college, are overjoyed with the performance of the Class of 2012 on the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT) Examination.



by Doug Frankenburg
Douglas.Frankenburg@CarolinasCollege.edu

The 2012 results were released early in 2013; here's why we're excited:

- Our graduates once again achieved a 100% first-attempt pass rate on the 2012 exam. This means our graduates have achieved a 100% pass rate for 27 of the past 28 years!
- The May 2012 class achieved a *group scaled score* of 92.1, well exceeding the national mean score of 85.3!
- The class's *percentile score* of 96% placed our 2012 graduates in the top 4% of all radiography examinees in the country!

As you read this, our latest graduates, the Class of 2013, is entering the profession. The program will miss them but we're confident they'll do well on the ARRT examination and in their new career. Level 1 students are delighted to be our new “senior students.”

We know that you share our excitement at the success of new graduates. You've provided professional, personal, and financial support to the program. Please know that the pride and joy we have in the achievement of our students is also shared with you, our esteemed alumni. A heartfelt “thank you” to each of you!



Carolinas College of Health Sciences is the #1 two-year college in the nation!

PROGRAM NEWS

radiation therapy



by Lee Braswell
Lee.Braswell@CarolinasCollege.edu

The radiation therapy faculty would like to congratulate the class of 2012 for their performance on the ARRT national certification exam. All graduates passed the exam on their first attempt with an average score of 88%. This was 5 points higher than the national average. In addition, three of the graduates scored in the top 5% nationally with one scoring in the top 1%. Your hard work paid off!

In program news, the Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology conducted its on-site review of the radiation therapy program on April 8th and 9th. The program expects to receive an accreditation ruling in the summer of 2013. Thanks to all who helped prepare for a successful review.

We know that you share our excitement at the success of new graduates. You've provided professional, personal, and financial support to these programs. Please know that the pride and joy we have in the achievement of our students is also shared with you, our esteemed alumni. A heartfelt "thank you" to each of you!

surgical technology



by Kali Simien
Kali.Simien@CarolinasCollege.edu

Spring is a time for new beginnings and this spring, we welcomed our first AAS bridge students! This program allows graduates of accredited surgical

technology programs to earn an associate degree by completing 30 credits in general studies courses. Many of our bridge students are able to continue full time employment while utilizing the online/hybrid delivery of some of the courses. Why get an associate's degree? An associate's degree is becoming the industry standard for entry level practice and could lead to careers in the field of education, management in a sterile processing department, and medical devices sales.

All students have the opportunity to become certified surgical technologists! The AST Certification Exam is a requirement for graduation and administered to all surgical technology students nationwide. Our current students are reviewing unit information and gearing up for their test date on April 29.

Graduation is scheduled for May 3 and students are focused on their spring research projects and completing their clinical case requirements. Students are required to complete a total of 120 surgeries and demonstrate proficiency in 5 different specialties. If you are employed at CMC sister facilities, you may encounter them as they rotate during their last semester. Every surgical unit has its own unique mix of surgical cases and the students really benefit from these rotations.

As always, thank you for your willingness to share your knowledge and skills with our future fellow professionals!

clinical laboratory sciences



by Kelly Shirley
Kelly.Shirley@CarolinasCollege.edu

Congratulations to our recent medical laboratory science (MLS) graduates! January class: Kristen Glasspoole, Derek Huffstetler, and Rachel Perry. August Class:

Erin Beller, Dadrienne Hinson, Ashley Jewell, Shauntay Matthews, Erin Parker, Sameka Rouse, George Vuong, and Ali Winter. All eleven graduates passed the ASCP Board of Certification and received offers of employment before graduation. Ten of them are working in the laboratories of Carolinas HealthCare System. Erin Parker returned to her beloved NC mountains. Special congratulations go to Sameka Rouse; she scored in the top 1% of the nation on the BOC exam.

We did it! In October 2012, the medical laboratory science program achieved accreditation for seven more years, the maximum accreditation awarded by National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Sciences (NAACLS). The faculty submitted a successful comprehensive self-study, and the NAACLS site-visitors spent three days inspecting the program with a final perfect report of no deficiencies and no recommendations.

If you are a med tech or MLS reading this article, I bet you were trained by Cyndie Hobson and Kimberly Yarborough. Both are celebrating years of service to Carolinas HealthCare System this year. Cyndie, a CHS medical technology program alumnus, has been with CHS for 35 years and has been teaching in the program for 31 years. Kimberly, also an alumnus, has been with CHS for 30 years and has been teaching for 28 years. That's a lot of lectures! Congratulations to Cyndie and

Continued on page 5.

COVER STORY

Daughter Leads Dad on RN Journey

Dan Edwards is a 2012 graduate of CCHS's nursing program. His path to a nursing career had a unique start. When his daughter Corinna Edwards Abreu, then just 17, started nursing school at CCHS in 2007, Dan accompanied her to student orientation, attending the portion for parents. Corinna was one of the youngest students ever admitted to CCHS and Dan wanted to learn how to best help his daughter in her nursing school journey. He was intrigued by what he heard. The rest of the story emerged as Dan and Corinna answered President Sheppard's interview questions last month.

Was there an Edwards family tradition of health care?

Dan: Corinna has a brother and a sister who pursued nursing careers, and my mother was a well-respected IV nurse in the Adirondack Mountains of New York, so we both knew that nursing is a demanding yet satisfying career. Just before she died, in the mid-1980's, my mother told me "You'd make a great nurse!" Though it took a while, her words never left me. At 80, my dad attended my graduation last December. He whispered something that touched me more deeply than anything else could have: "Your mom would be so proud of you!" I knew then that I had done what I was meant to do.

Corinna: My dad always looked up to my grandmother and assured me I wouldn't be disappointed in a nursing career. When I decided to pursue it, he told me, "It runs in the family!" It was a wonderful feeling of role reversal to attend his graduation five years later!

Dan, you had another career before nursing school?

Dan: Yes, I married young and started my family right away. My goal, first and foremost, was to take care of my family. There wasn't much thought given to what I really wanted to do. I had a very physical job, but due to my sales and management skills, I was promoted quickly. Soon, I was managing a store in Saratoga Springs, NY, while also providing for the children, physically and spiritually. In the 1990's, I took a Charlotte job in international logistics. When the

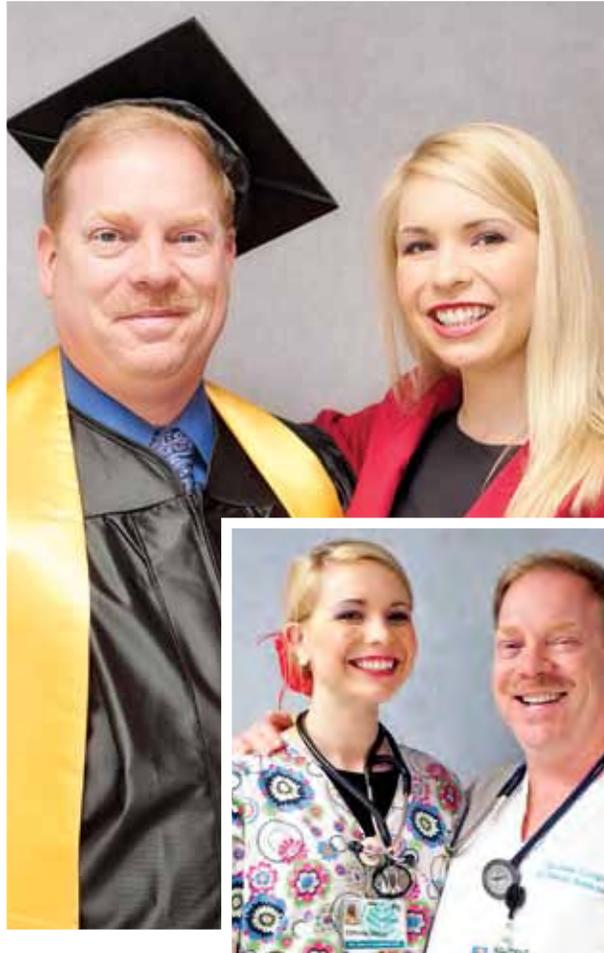
children had finished college I faced – and survived - a serious health challenge. That made me reflect on my life, and I realized I was working for money, not for meaning or enjoyment. I had to make a change.

What was the family's reaction when Dan announced his plans?

Corinna: I hardly had time to think about it. Dad is a cancer survivor. After getting diagnosed, he started to think about his bucket list of things he wanted to accomplish. Before mom and I could blink, he was enrolled! He'd planned to go to radiology school when he was young, so healthcare had been a longtime dream before marriage and family intervened. Because he'd been my late night study buddy when I was in nursing school, I knew he could do it. I'm proud of Dad, and glad he's accomplished a lifelong goal.

Dan: My wife Ann was my biggest cheerleader, and all my family and friends were unsurpassed in encouragement. God and my family gave me the courage to keep my focus on the road ahead, even when health challenges tried to knock me down. Corinna kept my head in the game, even when some assignments kept me up until sunrise. She helped me review for tests, just as I had done for her.

Dan started work last month at CMC's Neurology/Stroke/Telemetry Unit where he'll focus on being "the best nurse possible." Corinna is an RN with Carolinas Rehabilitation; she also teaches BLS and ACLS and does case management. Though still recovering from a very serious traffic accident and simultaneously adjusting to married life, she takes her nursing professional growth seriously and in June will take the certification exam for nurses specializing in rehabilitation.



ALUMNI ASSOCIATION NEWS



Lee Abbott, R.N., B.S.
Class of 1963

Making a Difference

We are health care professionals – many of us with years of experience and training. We have spent years doing what we do best - caring for others. It is often a demanding, difficult and sometimes overwhelming challenge. Looking back though, we realize that this was our calling. It was a good decision. We have made a difference.

But there are times when we need to step back and save some of the caring and nurturing for ourselves. Yes, this is difficult, but we need to connect with our friends and co-workers to build relationships that will sustain us in

times of added stress and crisis, and in good times, too! It makes such a difference to know you have a friend to rely on when the need arises, and to share the joys of life as well.

On May 3rd and 4th, two classes had the chance to nurture and renew old and dear friendships. The Classes of 1953 and 1963 celebrated their 50th and 60th year reunions. I was lucky enough to be a member of one those classes ('63) and I am still smiling recalling the weekend festivities. It was wonderful to reconnect with my classmates after all these years and to remember "the way we were." We had great fun reminiscing and sharing those stories.

Another great way to connect with friends and coworkers is by being an active member of your Alumni Association! Join us for a quarterly meeting, a Young Alumni Council event, a CCHS Day of Service, capping, graduation, or another activity. I was pleased to host the alumni spring party at my home in March; it was fun to see so many alumni in a purely social setting! The Alumni Association

has really grown and offers lots of opportunities. Find a few that appeal to you. (See list of upcoming events at right).

Finally, a special thank you to all who contributed to the annual Phone-A-Thon Fundraising Campaign in March. Funds generated enable our students to face the many challenges and complexities of being a student during these trying economic times. Through your generosity, you continue to make a difference.

Let's continue to show that we care. We do make a difference in our work and our communities around the world, just by being there.

Lee Abbott

UPCOMING ALUMNI EVENTS

THURSDAY, MAY 16

THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION'S YOUNG ALUMNI COUNCIL INAUGURAL EVENT

5:30 – 7:30 at Levine Cancer Institute

See page 7 for more details

TUESDAY, MAY 28

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION MEETING

6:30 p.m. at CCHS

If you'd like, bring along new unwrapped toys to donate to the Levine Children's Hospital Toy Chest.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 28

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION MEETING

6:30 p.m. at CCHS

If you'd like, bring along school supplies for the annual School Tools Campaign to benefit Classroom Central.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 17

SCHOLARSHIP RECEPTION

Reception for scholarship donors to meet student recipients. By invitation.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 19

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION MEETING

6:30 p.m. at CCHS

If you'd like, bring along stocking stuffers for children ages 9-11 to benefit The Salvation Army.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12

CAPPING CEREMONY

Nursing alumni welcome.

RSVP: Pat Lewis at 704-355-2029

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13

GRADUATION

3:30 p.m. at Pritchard Memorial Baptist Church

GRADS ON THE *go!*



Medical Laboratory Science '93
BRIAN DECKER

BRIAN DECKER, MLS 1993, grew up in Hickory, NC, and graduated from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte in 1992 with a BS degree in Biology. Brian was always interested in microscopy throughout high school and college. He was introduced to laboratory science by a college professor and liked the idea of working in a healthcare setting ultimately helping people. He always enjoyed microscopic “sleuthing” using the “unseen” to help figure out or solve a puzzle. Brian graduated from the CCHS medical technology program in August of 1993 and has been a Grad-on-the-Go ever since.

Brian’s first position as a medical technologist was in the Carolinas Medical Center Hematology Department. Along with performing routine and special hematology testing and serving as the lead technologist, Brian was chosen to be on the team that designed and established the new Myers Park laboratory. In April 1998, Brian accepted a position with Mecklenburg Medical Group (MMG) where he performed all roles of the medical technologist for various small and large internal medicine, hematology/oncology, G.I. and sleep medicine practices across the MMG offices. Even with his heavy workload, Brian gave back to the profession by coordinating and instructing the phlebotomy rotations for Carolinas College Medical Laboratory Science and Phlebotomy students. In 2007, he was promoted to laboratory supervisor and technical consultant overseeing MMG’s nine highly and moderately complex testing laboratories. In 2009, Brian achieved his Master’s in Business Administration from UNC

Charlotte and was inducted in the Beta Gamma Sigma International Honor Society.

Currently, Brian works for Premier Inc., as a clinical field specialist director. He is a subject matter expert, clinically and technically trained. Brian is responsible for identifying laboratory-related savings opportunities for acute and non-acute health care providers. Additionally, Brian presents at regional meetings to provide general laboratory resources and updates.

Brian recently came to Carolinas College and talked with the current medical laboratory science students about his 20-year career path. Said Brian, “medical laboratory scientists (medical technologists) are trained to problem solve - to go through a process of identifying abnormal scenarios and turning that into information that can be used as part of an overall picture. This ability to turn difficult or unknown pieces of data into actionable information is a key mindset that can translate into a variety of roles.” Brian emphasized the need for a multi-disciplinary approach to patient care and stated that laboratory professionals bring valuable specialized skills and expertise to the healthcare team.

Brian and his wife, Jaclynn (PA with MMG) live in Mooresville, NC, and have three children, daughters Alena (8) and Hadley (4) and son Hartmann (6). When Brian was in the CCHS Medical Technology program, he was known as the guy with the ponytail who played in a band. Brian still enjoys playing the guitar. He no longer wears his hair in a ponytail, but his daughters come to him for help when they want to wear their hair in ponytails.

PROGRAM NEWS *cont'd from page 2.*

Kimberly! Thank you for your dedication to training the best MTs/MLSs out there.

Early in 2012, administrators with the Carolinas Medical Center Anatomical Pathology Department began discussions with Carolinas College about the possibility of starting a histology program. There is a critical local and national need for well-trained histologists. Excited to take on this challenge, the School of Clinical Laboratory Sciences began developing a 12-month post-baccalaureate certificate histotechnology program and successfully recruited Lamar Jones as the program’s educa-

tion coordinator. Lamar is a nationally known histologist with over 40 years of experience in histotechnology and pathology. He is a talented national speaker and he has previously established three histology-training programs. In January 2013, Carolinas College welcomed the first class of histotechnology (HTL) students. These laboratory scientists are vital members of the health care team and are involved in disease diagnosis. Histotechnologists fix, process, and cut ribbon thin slices of tissue from biopsy, surgical removal and autopsy, mount the sliced tissue on slides, and stain with special dyes making the cell details visible

for microscopic diagnostic examination. The HTL students will join the MLS students for intraprofessional collaboration during the afternoon lectures of professional development, education, research, and management.

Attention Blood Bankers: Carolinas College has an online Specialist in Blood Bank Technology/Transfusion Medicine program. Visit the college’s web page for details.

Remember to make time for your family and take time for yourself. Keep in touch!

GRADS ON THE *go!*



Surgical
Technology '10
JESSICA BLACKMON

JESSICA BLACKMON graduated from the surgical technology program at CCHS in 2010. She was working as a nanny when she applied to the program and felt a strong calling to care for others in a healthcare environment. Jessica loved the small class size which made it a more comfortable learning environment.

Jessica describes her first experience in the operating room, “My first surgical experience was interesting to say the least. After about an hour, I noticed that I was getting a little warm and soon after that, I couldn’t

hear anything. I knew that something wasn’t right, so I asked to sit down. Shortly after that, I passed out and was transferred to the hallway. I thought for sure that I would never be able to do this job, but I came back the very next day. The rest is history!”



Nursing '07
JOHN MORRIS

JOHN MORRIS, NUR 2007, followed an interesting path to his nursing career. He pursued nursing because there was no physician’s assistant program in Charlotte and he thought he was settling for second best. Six

years later, John now says it’s the most fulfilling work he has ever done. Among the many jobs he held prior to nursing, his career varied from a medic for the U.S. Coast Guard, a mortgage broker, a carpenter, waiter, bouncer in a country bar, professional baker for a Colorado resort, to leading horseback trips in Oregon and Colorado, backpacking trips in Northern Wisconsin and the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. With a partner, he successfully opened and ran a chain of Christian bookstores in Charlotte. He worked as a commercial crabber in the Bering Sea, traveled the U.S. three times by motorcycle, installed solar lighting systems in Africa, sang his way across Europe, yet he confides that none of those things combines the thrill, frustration, agony, passion,

exhaustion, exhilaration, laughter, tears, income and family time that nursing does. Says John, “There are few things in this short life that are imbued with as much value and meaning as caring for someone who cannot care for themselves.” He considers it a profound and visceral honor to be a nurse; his gratitude to CCHS for setting him on that course, he says, is so deep as to be “inexpressible.”

Following graduation from Carolinas College, John began his nursing career in the Neurosurgical ICU at CMC and simultaneously worked in home care where he spent four years working with a single patient. After five years with the NSICU, he transferred to the CMC-University float pool where he also worked with the LiveWell Carolinas office at Northlake Mall and with corporate health fairs. He has continued to work with Bayada Home Care and recently accepted the clinical manager position for the Bayada Home Health Care Charlotte adult office. In this role, he develops and manages care plans for the nurses who carry them out for adult home care clients, working closely with Medicaid and the NC legislature to advocate for funding.

Following graduation she was fortunate to secure a position with the GYN/EENT/Plastic Surgery team at CMC’s inpatient OR. This position provided the opportunity to enhance her knowledge and skills in all facets of plastic and reconstructive surgery. When new plastic surgeon, Dr. David Fisher came on board, Jessica was hired as his private scrub and now assists him on a daily basis. She had always desired to grow into the role of a private scrub and is enjoying the interaction with patients. This position allows her to build relationships with patients and follow them through all phases of their care.

Jessica loves the diversity that the office vs. the operating room provides. In the office, she is able to meet patients face-to-face and follow up with their post-operative care. On a typical day she may assist in removing staples, changing dressings, scheduling CT scans, or making telephone calls to patients. In the operating room, she is right beside Dr. Fisher for every case and enjoys the complexity and variety of procedures. In her spare time, Jessica enjoys gardening, hiking, camping and spending time with friends and family.

In recognition of his contributions to nursing, Bayada Home Health Care honored him as a “National Hometown Hero of the Year.” At the Center for Life Support Education he continues teaching life support and advanced life support courses. His best moment in nursing was six months into his job in the NSICU, after his first code, when he realized he didn’t need to be afraid anymore.

John also has a Bachelor of Science degree in Kinesiology from Wheaton College where he met Tammy, his wife of 17 years. They have two outstanding boys, River and Denver (16 and 12 respectively), in Mint Hill, NC, and one “mini attack panther,” Cookie. Perhaps hearkening to his Scottish ancestors, he enjoys sitting with a good book by a crackling fire.

John’s advice: “Remember why nurses are valuable - because we care. Not because our charting is stellar or we’re on three committees or we’re scrambling up the clinical ladder presenting tri-fold displays on the risks of blood-thinners. It’s because when our patients hurt, we ease their pain. There’s never a lack of sick and lame in the world but there is a decided lack of caring. And no one cares how much you know until they know how much you care.”

Announcing...

The Young Alumni Council

...a new initiative of the CCHS Alumni Association

Why a Young Alumni Council?

Since the Alumni Association was founded in 1996, its officers have heard that CCHS alums value connecting with old friends and learning about the goals and needs of today's students. But officers also heard – especially from younger alumni – how scarce their time is. Younger alumni requested programming narrowly focused on professional development, networking, educational advancement, and mentoring opportunities with CCHS students. The association listened!

What, exactly, is a “Young” Alumnus?

Great question! The Council suggested the term “young alumni” be used for those who graduated within the past ten years (approximately), regardless of age.

Is this group part of the CCHS alumni association?

YES! The Young Alumni Council was created by the Alumni Association to address the needs of this particular group – but it is an integral part of the overall Association.

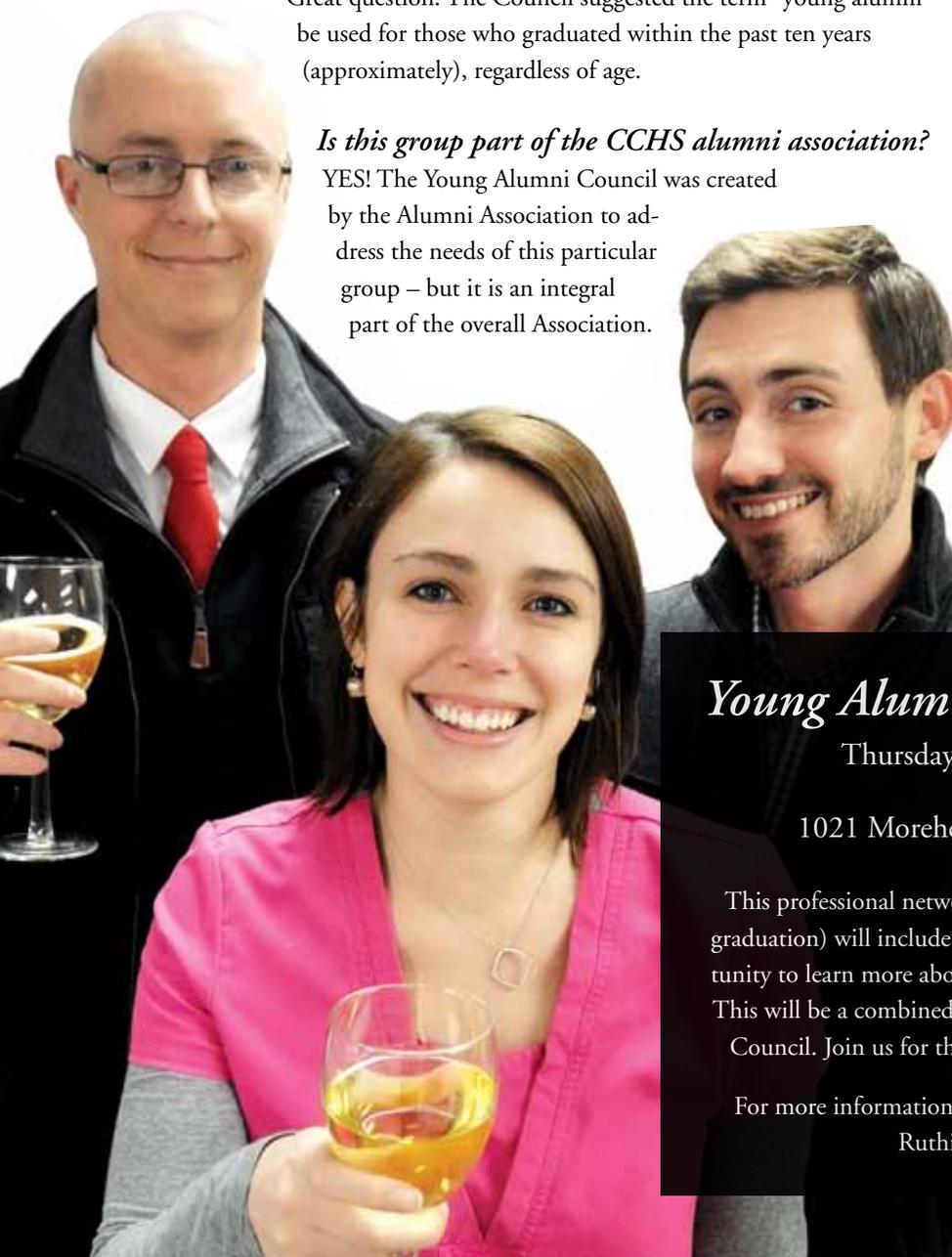
So, what is the CCHS Young Alumni Council?

The seed was planted when a few young alums got together to brainstorm how the college could best meet the needs of younger alumni. That original think tank consisted of Stacey Holman (NUR '10), Jason McLawhorn (NUR '11), Will Borders (MLS '06), Jonathan Jackson (RTT '10, RT '07), Kendall Haigh (NUR '01), and Tiffany McArthur (NUR '06). With Ruthie Mihal's help, they developed the concept of a council devoted to younger alumni. The full Alumni Association, at its December 2012 meeting, endorsed the creation of the Council.

What if I graduated more than ten years ago?

If there is an event that interests you, please join in! Ten years is not a hard-and-fast rule; all interested alumni are welcome. The Carolinas College Alumni Association Facebook page and alumni magazine will list upcoming events. Though specific notification emails and invitations will only be sent to those who graduated within ten years, the activities are open to all.

Pictured: Will Borders, Stacy Holman and Jason McLawhorn



Young Alumni Council Inaugural Event

Thursday, May 16, 2013 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Levine Cancer Institute

1021 Morehead Medical Drive • Charlotte, NC

This professional networking event for “young alumni” (within ten years of graduation) will include a cocktail reception, tours of the LCI, and the opportunity to learn more about careers in oncology and at Levine Cancer Institute. This will be a combined event with Mercy School of Nursing's Young Alumni Council. Join us for this inaugural kick-off to our young alumni initiative.

For more information or to RSVP, contact: Ruthie Mihal 704.609.1542

Ruthie.Mihal@CarolinasHealthCare.org

ALUMNI EARN PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION



Pam Mason

Alumni **PAM MASON** (NUR '05) and **THERESIA (TESSA) MAXWELL** (NUR '95) were inducted as members of The Great 100. The Great 100 annually recognizes the one hundred most outstanding nurses in North Carolina.

JEFF REECE (NUR '97, and 2008 Distinguished Alumnus) is CEO of Chesterfield General Hospital in Cheraw, SC. Becker's Hospital Review included Chesterfield General in its 2013 list of "100 Great Hospitals in America." In typical Jeff Reece style, he immediately emailed to thank CCHS "for what you helped create!"

JOHN MORRIS (NUR '07) has been named Bayada Home Health Care's "National Hometown Hero of the Year." He'll receive the award in Hershey, PA, in June.

(Please send the College news of your recognition so we can feature you, as well!)



Tessa Maxwell



Jeff Reece



John Morris



2013 ALUMNI PHONE-A-THON ANSWERING THE CALL

YOU, our generous alumni, did answer the call during the annual CCHS Phone-A-Thon Campaign held on March 18, 19 and 20. And because you did, this year's event was a great success raising over \$17,000. Those tax-deductible gifts will ensure that CCHS students continue to benefit

from scholarships, small classes, superior faculty, and a state-of-the-art simulation lab — things tuition alone cannot cover. The generosity of CCHS alumni is truly amazing! **THANK YOU!**

CCHS students from all programs were very engaged in the event. Over the three nights, approximately 50 students made calls to alumni, with many volunteering multiple evenings. Unlike most colleges, the CCHS phone-a-thon is staffed entirely with unpaid volunteers. They give of their time because they know the importance of alumni contributions in meeting the college's mission and vision. They give of their time because they genuinely enjoy talking to alumni and hearing their stories. This year students even wrote thank you notes. In early April students personally wrote over 100 donor thank you notes. They wanted you to know how much your financial support means to them and to CCHS.

FACULTY ACCOMPLISHMENTS



Sara Masters



Mary Griffin

Carolinas HealthCare System's highest form of employee recognition is the Pinnacle Award. This year a record number of CCHS employees were nominated for the Pinnacle Award: Susan Thomasson, Lucy Davison, Doug Frankenburg, Jill Powell, and Sara Masters. **SARA MASTERS** was a finalist for the prestigious award.

DR. MARY GRIFFIN, nursing faculty member, has been named president-elect of NCADN - the North Carolina Association of Associate Degree Educators.



Hampton Hopkins



Sherri Marlow

DR. HAMPTON HOPKINS, Dean of Student Services, has been appointed to the Board of Directors of the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators (NASPA), representing small colleges and universities. NASPA is the leading association for the advancement, health, and sustainability of the student affairs profession and currently has nearly 14,000 members from all 50 states and 29 countries.

SHERRI MARLOW, Associate Dean of Nursing, is serving as chair of the regional Deans and Directors of Nursing. Additionally, she has been invited to present her doctoral research on Civility in Nursing at two NC regional conferences.



Susan Patterson



Kelly Shirley

SUSAN PATTERSON, nursing faculty member, has been invited to present her doctoral research on Emotional Freedom Technique, a form of counseling intervention, both regionally and nationally. In May she presents at the Energy Medicine Conference in Washington, DC; in October, to the NC Nurses Association.

KELLY SHIRLEY, Director of Clinical Laboratory Sciences, was appointed to a three-year term on the North Carolina Association of Blood Bankers (NCABB) Board of Directors.

Special Patients Sing the Praises of CCHS Alumni

Often, CCHS staff hears, “I’ll only hire a CCHS graduate,” or “CCHS grads know so much more than other new grads!”

Of course, faculty and administrators beam with pride at that affirmation of their students, their hard work, and the curriculum they’ve carefully constructed. And they know that is just the tip of the iceberg of impressive care being delivered by CCHS alumni throughout the United States and internationally.

In the last six months, two members of the College’s Board of Directors and at least one alumnus have used inpatient services at Carolinas Medical Center. In each case the patients had every reason to be focused on their own needs and concerns, but they were so impressed by the care provided by a CCHS-educated provider that they made a beeline after discharge to share their experience with CCHS President Ellen Sheppard.

(Editor’s Note: Though permission was given to share details of each situation, Connections has chosen not to use patient names.)



Frances Sanford

About **FRANCES SANFORD** (NUR '09), a board member’s praise was effusive. “Frances was amazing. She was very confident and knowledgeable, but on top of that - she was cheerful and upbeat. She was obviously respected by colleagues; other nurses and providers routinely turned to her for opinions and approval. I was impressed by how – even as she gave her full attention to each patient – she was also aware of everything going on with other patients. I was amazed by the effective teamwork I saw. Later, when I mentioned her to my physician, his eyes lit up. Clearly she’s highly valued by the practice.” When the college shared this great report with Frances, she humbly focused on the team aspect: “I’m so glad he noticed our teamwork. We’ve been working hard on that; I can’t wait to share with my team that our hard work shows.” Additional congratulations are due to Frances on her April marriage!



Michael Pinto

High praise by a CCHS board member was also earned by **MICHAEL PINTO** (NUR '10). The glowing report: “I had a lot of nurses over those couple of days, but the best was Michael Pinto. I was so proud when he said he’d attended Carolinas College of Health Sciences. In fact, I liked him so much that I insisted he take the lovely fruit bouquet the college sent me!”



David Laird

A third example is unique in that a student nurse was recognized. **DAVID LAIRD** was a final semester nursing student in March when the spouse of an alum was hospitalized. The situation was critical, complex, perplexing. Medications that should have worked, didn’t. Interventions intended to improve things only made them worse. Things eventually turned around, but it was a situation where patients and families could grow impatient and angry. Not so with this CCHS alumnus. She immediately noted the skill and attitude of student David Laird. “All of the nursing care was exceptional,” she later said. “But when I realized that David, who was so professional and so outstanding, was a student, I couldn’t get over it! Of course, I was doubly pleased that he was a CCHS student.”

Thank you, Frances Sanford, Michael Pinto, and David Laird. You’ve provided three great examples of the excellent care and knowledge being demonstrated by CCHS alumni each day!

CCHS is #1...

CCHS students, faculty and staff gathered in February to celebrate another year of excellence. For the second year in a row, CCHS has been ranked the Number 1 two-year college in the nation! It was also ranked as the Number 6 college in North Carolina when 4-year universities and graduate schools were included – just after Duke, Chapel Hill, Davidson, NC State, and Wake Forest.

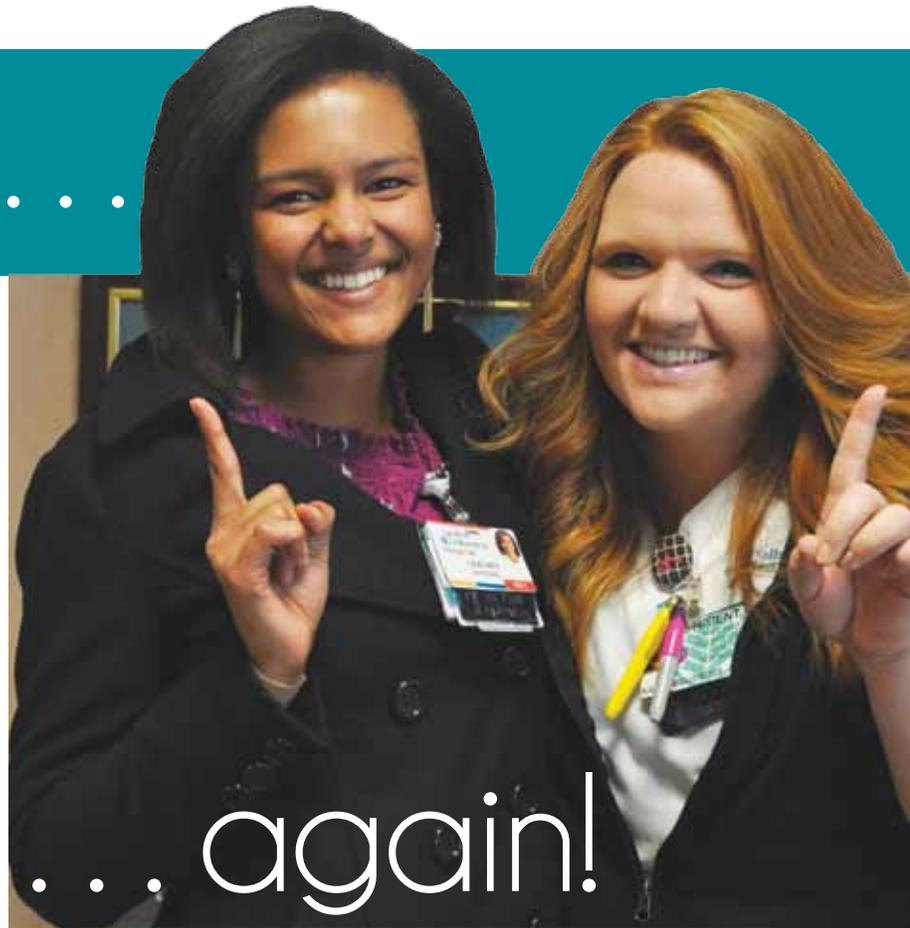
The rankings – released by StateUniversity.com – analyze data from the top 2,000 colleges and universities in the nation and are based solely on mathematical comparisons of key statistics, including student/faculty ratio, student retention and test scores. CCHS has a low student-to-faculty ratio, exceptional student retention and graduation rates, and outstanding national exam scores, which consistently rank top in the nation. In fact, the nursing program recently hit a historically high 90 percent graduation rate.

“This ranking is an affirmation of the academic excellence of our students and of the commitment of our faculty and staff,” said Ellen Sheppard, EdD, president of the college. “We are thrilled to be recognized for what we try to accomplish every day—making our students our top priority.”

The College has 453 full-time and part-time students enrolled and offers educational opportunities in programs like nursing, medical laboratory science, histotechnology, radiation therapy, surgical technology, radiologic technology, and continuing education programs in professional skills and integrative medicine.

“Because CCHS is a smaller school, we build better relationships with the teachers, who are always willing to help,” said Amber Chapman, a first-year nursing student at CCHS. “The students here work so closely all the time that it feels like you’re part of a family. And everybody seems to have the same passion that you have.”

In 2012, CCHS graduates were recognized for top exam scores nationally. Radiologic technology graduates achieved, for the 27th year, a 100 percent first-attempt pass rate on the ARRT registry examination, with a combined score of 92.1, placing its graduates in the top 4 percent in the nation. One



hundred percent of its medical laboratory science graduates, for the 8th year in a row, passed the ASCP Board Certification on the first attempt, with two graduates scoring in the top 1 percent of the nation.

The College celebrated the announcement with a February event featuring a chocolate fondue fountain, #1 badge holders for all students and staff, and a surprise appearance from Tina Turner (impersonated by Financial Aid Officer Jill Powell) singing the classic “Simply the Best.”

cchs special events



Since the last issue of *Connections*, both routine and special events have kept students, staff, and alumni smiling!

- 1 In August, eight MLS and six radiation therapy students completed their CCHS journey, prepared to enter new careers.
- 2 In late August CCHS welcomed 250 new students. Student Ambassadors entertained, guided, and mentored the new students.
- 3 The annual scholarship reception was held in October, featuring the inaugural presentation of the Alumni Association's Ellen Sheppard Scholarship.
- 4 Oktoberfest was the theme of the college's fall festival, without beer or wurst!
- 5 Dr. Francis Robicsek attended the November alumni meeting and was delighted to see many familiar faces, including Patsy Martin (NUR '56).
- 6 The fall alumni reception brought smiles from December graduates.
- 7 Alumni assembled Christmas stockings for the Christmas Bureau.
- 8 In December, 21 nursing students elected to be capped/pinned.

**“Thank you, CCHS,
for all the fun
activities and for
the opportunities
to engage in
service to our
community!”**

- a May 2013
student on the
end-of-program
survey



1



2



3



4



5

- 9 On December 14, 59 new RNs completed their CCHS journey.
- 10 Three students completed the MLS program in January, marking the end of an era – it was the last January graduation.
- 11 In February, intrepid CCHS faculty, staff, and alumni participated in the Cupid 5K Fundraiser for Heart Disease Awareness.
- 12 March again brought a senior student favorite: the alumni reception.



6



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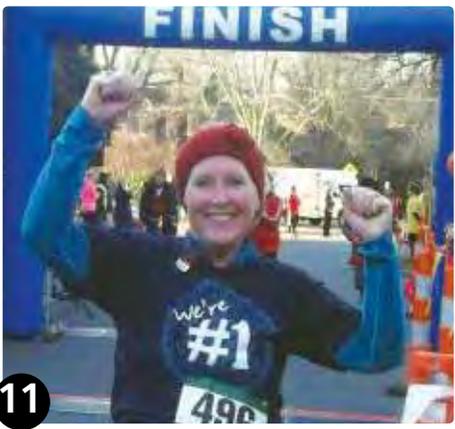
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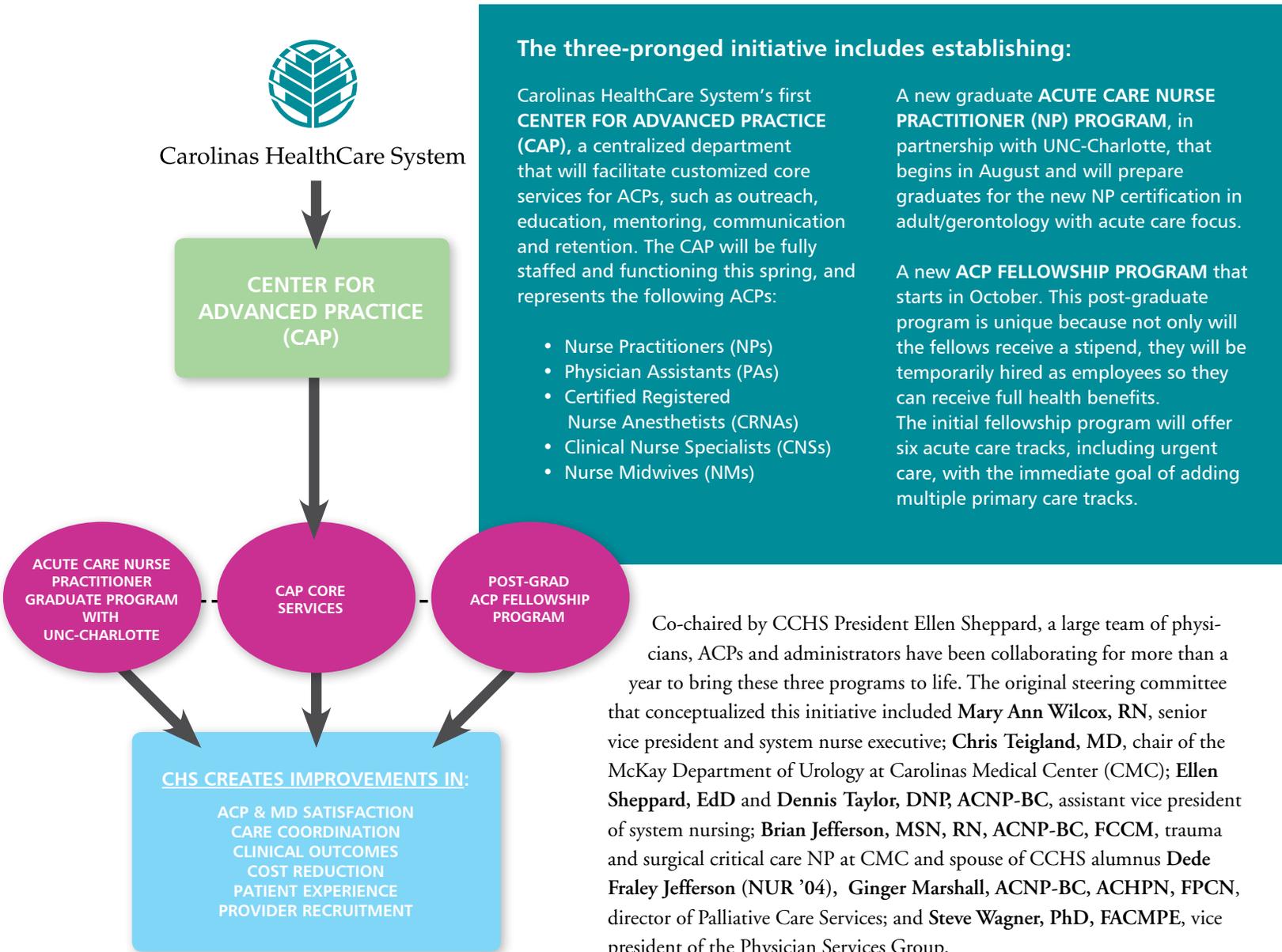
- 13 Students reached out to alumni during the March Phone-a-thon.
- 14 Alumni celebrated with a March garden party at the home of alumni association president Lee Abbott. Alumni pictured L-R: June L. Booth ('57), Garland Smith ('59), Martha E. Myrick ('60), Nancy D. Hill ('67), Nancy Murray ('54), Libby H. Greene ('60).

GREAT NEWS!

for Advanced Practice Nurses

Carolinas HealthCare System Demonstrates High Regard for Advanced Clinical Practitioners by developing an Innovative Approach to Maximizing the Role of ACPs

Carolinas HealthCare System is taking an innovative approach to optimizing the role of advanced clinical practitioners, while redefining its patient care delivery model into a more team-based, value-driven system. CHS is one of the first healthcare systems in the country to create a network-wide, comprehensive approach for optimizing the role of advanced clinical practitioners (ACPs) to help us adapt and succeed in the ever-changing healthcare environment.





For More Information about the
CENTER FOR ADVANCED PRACTICE:
dennis.taylor@carolinashealthcare.org
ACP FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM:
brian.jefferson@carolinashealthcare.org
ACNP PROGRAM:
ellen.sheppard@carolinascollege.edu

“This initiative is a win-win for everyone.”

– Paul Franz, executive vice president of
 Carolinas HealthCare System’s Physician Services Group

Through this ACP initiative, Carolinas HealthCare System has the opportunity to be positioned as a national leader in healthcare system transformation by refining the care delivery model. This program also supports the System’s strategic priority of providing clinically integrated, coordinated care.

“Maximizing the role of practitioners at all levels of the clinical team is crucial for succeeding in this evolving healthcare environment,” said Ellen Sheppard, EdD, co-creator of the new NP program. “It is especially important now, when facing an imminent nationwide shortage of physicians.”

“By embracing this streamlined, team-based approach to patient care, physicians and ACPs together will help transform Carolinas HealthCare System from a volume-based enterprise to a value-driven system,” said Chris Teigland, MD, medical director of CAP and co-chair of the ACP fellowship program. “This model is the way of the future in healthcare.”

The American Academy of Nurse Practitioners recently named Dr. Teigland the 2013 Advocate State Award of Excellence winner for his support of NPs at Carolinas Medical Center and for his work creating the CAP. This prestigious award is given annually to an individual who made significant contributions toward increasing awareness and acceptance of NPs in their state.

The ACP educational programs were created purposefully. There is a need for well-trained ACPs at Carolinas HealthCare System; in fact, there are many ACP job openings, especially in acute care. The programs’ robust, curriculum-based clinical training will produce more confident, successful ACPs working in our hospitals – which will make the entire care team stronger.

Ultimately, optimizing the role of ACPs and embracing this team-based care model will improve productivity, care coordination, clinical outcomes and patient experience, while reducing readmissions and cost trends. Additionally, the System’s culture will be enhanced by more satisfied providers with less burnout and turnover.

Paul Franz, executive vice president of Carolinas HealthCare System’s Physician Services Group, was a strong advocate for developing the CAP. “This initiative is a win-win for everyone,” he said. “Not only will this team-based model allow providers to spend more time practicing at the highest level of their specialty, it will also enable physician leaders to use their strong inter-professional skills to shape and optimize our healthcare teams to ensure we provide the highest quality care.”

SERVING AND *celebrating!*

Mahatma Gandhi said “The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others.” In the true spirit of these words, Carolinas College embraced the idea of serving others and launched its first annual Day of Service in August 2012 - with resounding success! More than 65 volunteers completed a total of 167 hours of service, partnering with local non-profits including Center of Hope, Crisis Assistance Ministries, Hope Haven, and Second Harvest Food Bank. Pre-nursing student Krista Mohrmann said, “It was fun! We made an effective and meaningful contribution at each community agency. Even though we won't actually see those we impact, it was rewarding knowing that we made a difference.” The event was such a success that the College planned two days of service in 2013: April 6 and August 24.



SCENES FROM THE 2012 & 2013 DAYS OF SERVICE



The April 6 event combined service and celebration as CCHS celebrated its #1 status for the second consecutive year. Students, alumni, staff, and their guests made sandwiches for Crisis Assistance Ministry; assembled “pencil packs” for Classroom Central; painted, sealed woodwork, and did chores for Florence Crittenton Services; landscaped at Freedom Park; tended to the flower boxes at the college; and helped children make cards for patients at Levine’s Children’s Hospital.

As service activities concluded, a traditional North Carolina barbecue lunch was served along with our beloved Spring Fling activities: grass skis, inflatable slide, and relays.

Alumni are invited to participate in the August 24 Day of Service. Watch your e-mail for details or contact Hampton Hopkins at 704-355-5585 or hampton.hopkins@CarolinasCollege.edu.

“Lose yourself in service...”

– Ghandi

1. Radiologic Technology faculty students sponsored a Bright Blessings birthday party and a Bless-a-Baby shower for the residents of Florence Crittenton. Residents enjoyed cake, fruit and gift bags, and participated in games and crafts. 2. The Community Blood Bank recognized the College in February for 10 straight years of successful blood drives, all organized by Phi Theta Kappa. Here, Cathey Miller (RT '76) passes the award to President Sheppard. 3. Since its founding in 1996 CCHS's Phi Theta Kappa honor society has forged a legacy of community service. Here, PTK prepares to take a pick up truck full of clothing to Crisis Assistance Ministry. 4. Ten “Angels” were sponsored and 75 Salvation Army stockings were filled by the generous staff, faculty, alumni, and students at Carolinas College in December.



2.



1.



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Alumni in Service to the College

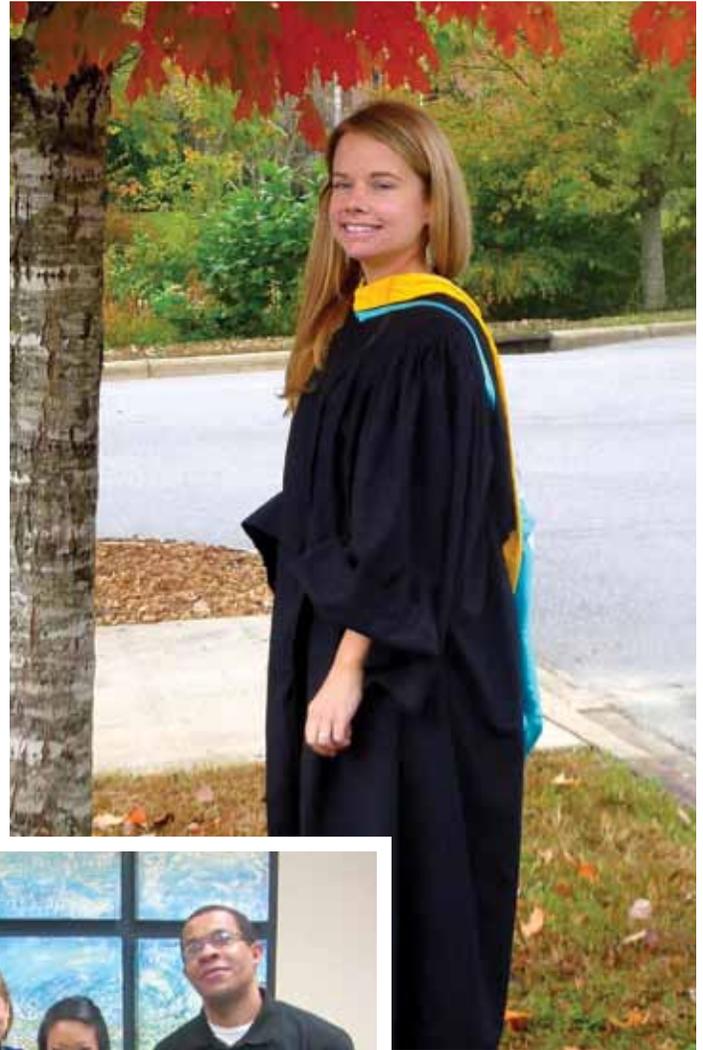
Each Each year CCHS alumni give back to the college in countless ways:

- Teaching interview skills; mock interviews
- Speaking to classes and student organizations
- Precepting, role modeling, orienting, and hiring CCHS graduates
- Baking, buying, and serving at alumni receptions
- Assisting with class reunions
- Making capping so special
- Hosting social events
- Leading and attending the alumni association, inviting and bringing others
- Telling their stories so CCHS never forget its roots
- Organizing and attending class reunions
- Generous financial contributions and gifts in-kind

The list above barely scratches the surface of the gifts of time, talent, and resources alumni willingly share. Each time the College asks, many alumni step forward. As a result, the quality of education CCHS provides is enhanced. Alumni connections are strengthened. Doors for new graduates are opened. For all of that.... CCHS thanks you!

Just two more examples: **MELANE MCNINCH** (NUR '10) hires students for paid healthcare internships. The work helps students financially while also reinforcing their growing healthcare skills.

RUSSELL TREMBLAY devoted a Saturday morning to providing a program and tours to the Class of '63 during their 50-year reunion.



Above: Nicole Mohrmann (MLS '02) represented CCHS at the inauguration of the new president of Brevard College.

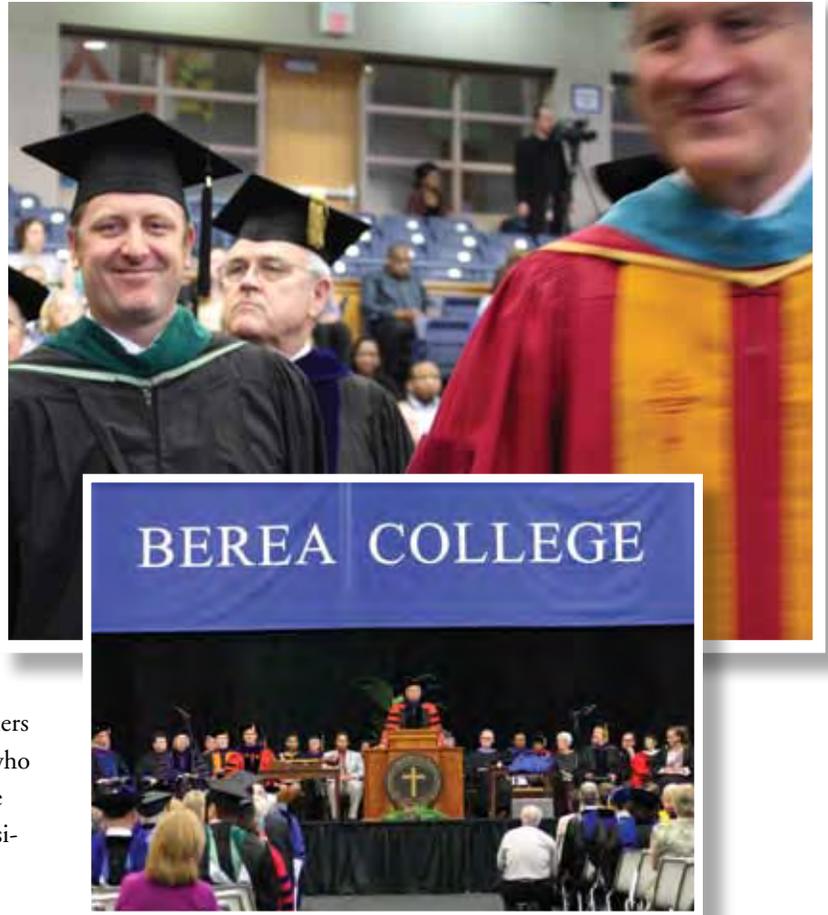


Left: Tayvia Spratt (CRNA), Sameka Rouse (MLS '12), LinLee Khiboathongkhoun (RTT '11), and Brice Mitchell (RT '10) gave up a free evening to speak to groups of high school students about careers in health care.

Check it out on our website! Go to www.CarolinasCollege.edu and look for "CCHS in the News."

Rushing Represents CCHS at Kentucky Ceremony

MIKE RUSHING (MLS '91) and spouse Terna represented CCHS at the inauguration of Dr. Lyle D. Roelofs as Berea College's 9th president on April 6. The Rushings moved to Kentucky from South Carolina when Mike accepted his current position as IT Program Director for UK HealthCare at the University of Kentucky in Lexington. Said Mike of the experience, "We met a lot of great people and enjoyed the ceremony, especially the music and singing of the Berea Choir. The highlight of the day was the reception at the Boone Tavern which is a favorite among Kentuckians." Mike and Terna learned a lot about the history and mission of Berea, which stemmed from the desire of abolitionists and reformers to create a college for "students from Appalachia, black and white, who have great promise and limited economic resources." Mike joins the growing list of CCHS alumni who've represented the College at presidential inaugurations across the nation.



“CCHS Pride” (YouTube, then “CHS [and CCHS] Pride”)
Three Alumni Filmed for Video

*Below: Kendall Haigh (NUR '01),
 Rodney Currin (NUR '99), and
 Vicky Wilson (NUR '11)*



Alumni with a Mission

Kris Earle (NUR '96, CRNA) and her son Graem, a pre-med student at Kenyon College, participated in their first mission trip to Honduras. Kris administered free anesthesia for a full week and said, "I stopped counting the number of hours once I reached 60!" She also worked with Notre Dame and Kenyon pre-med students teaching them to intubate with a glide scope (right).

Julie Johnston (MLS '90) continued her mission work, this year in Kenya where she captured snapshots of traditional methods of transporting water and goods (below left).

Other CCHS alumni who participated in mission work included **Eunice (Sooky) Hoffman** (NUR '51) who continues to say "this will be my last trip!" and **Karissa Cail** (NUR '07), who returned to the US after missionary work in South Sudan. Her last image as the plane took off was of the much beloved, iconic Baobab tree (below right).



Students Reap Benefits from CHS Affiliation

The question occasionally comes up, “What’s the value of attending a hospital-based college?” One answer: CCHS students often benefit from the wealth of opportunities Carolinas HealthCare System provides for enhanced professional training and networking. Histotechnology students, for instance, routinely attend “Tumor Board” meetings at which complex, current oncology cases are discussed among physicians and members of the care team. Students see first-hand the communication that occurs between practitioners and which leads to interprofessional problem solving.

In March, two students, **David Laird** (far right) and **Jorge Figueroa** (left in photo), attended the 8th Annual Youth Violence Prevention Conference, The College was pleased to sponsor their attendance, and these students were selected based on their interest in trauma and the pediatric population. The annual conference was the brainchild of surgeon Dr. David Jacobs (pictured, center), CMC Critical Care, and interest and attendance has grown each year. Reflecting on the conference, Laird, a final semester nursing student, said: “I learned that having a firearm in the home increases the chance of suicide of a youth by 30 times; that psychiatrists refer to bi-polar disorder as the “psychiatric cancer” because of the difficulty of treating the disease; and that a history of sexual abuse increases the risk for depression and suicide by 25 times.” Commented Figueroa, a nursing student with a background in emergency services, “I am much better prepared now to recognize the signs of youth self-injury, and I have some tools to help patients and families. This conference was well worth the time!”



Springtime in Paris!



Abhhh, spring time in Paris, does it get any better? This year’s alumni travel group headed to France on an amazing 10 day tour that included Paris, Normandy and the Loire Valley.

From the Eiffel Tower to the magnificent chateaux of the Loire Valley, this trip included iconic sites for which France is most commonly associated. A highlight for many travelers was the visit to the D-Day beaches of Normandy and the WWII memorial – a moving experience for all. It was then on to stops at quaint seaside towns, wine tasting in the Loire Valley and back to Paris, the City of Light!



SOME ALUMNI TRAVEL DESTINATIONS UNDER CONSIDERATION FOR 2014...

- Thailand
- Athens & Ancient Greece
- Amsterdam,
- Luxembourg & Brussels
- Barcelona, Southern France & the Italian Riviera

An email survey will be sent to all alumni soon for input on next year’s choice!

*"A measure of good character is one's actions
when there is nothing to be gained by demonstrating good character!"*

Jennifer Autry, MLS '12
Julia Barela, EMS '05
Katie Baron-Duncan, NUR '12
Kara Batterman, NUR '09
Avery Bigham, NUR '05
Ryan Blanton, MLS '06
Vicki Blazer, RT '74; Susan Stricker Scholarship
Mary Bonk, NUR '50
Will Borders, MLS '06
MK Brennan, NUR '96

Finley & Lynda Ellington
Melissa Gregg, NUR '04
Richard Griffiths, NUR '06
Nancy Haas, NUR '55
Constance Hanckel, NUR '06
Lindsay Harris, RT '06; Susan Stricker Scholarship
Carolyn B. Hefner, NUR '57
James Hermann, Jr., NUR '03
Meredith Hirsch, Faculty, NUR '00
Stacey Holman, NUR '10

Nancy Murray, NUR '54
Martha E. Myrick, NUR '60; Elinor Caddell Scholarship
in memory of Lynda Ellington & Nancy Finley
Ruby Nance, NUR '48
Phi Yen Nguyen, NUR '09
Nonye Nwokedi, NUR '07
Marjorie Pappaioanou, NUR '63
Jonathan Paquette, NUR '07
Elizabeth S. Patterson, NUR '55; In Memory of Deceased
Classmates

DONORS 2012-13

Audrey Bridges, NUR '51; In Honor of Virginia Stuart
Cloer
Jane Bridges, NUR '05
Faye Bridges, NUR '59
Bradley R. Brock, NUR '98
Karey Bruton, NUR '12
Jeannette Carr, NUR '60; In Honor of Dr. Chalmers Carr
Nancy Cathcart, NUR '59
Libby Cole, NUR '59
Betsy Copley, NUR '48; In Honor of the Class of 1948
Pamela Cornell, NUR '11
Allison Cox, Friend of CCHS; In Memory of Alice Roberts
Evelyn S. Culpepper, NUR '48; In Memory of Mike
Culpepper
LaTonya Cureton, ST '01
Gardenia Davis, Faculty, ST '03
Sarah Davis, NUR '10
Lucy J. Davison, Faculty, RT '79; Susan Stricker
Scholarship
Helen Deal, NUR '52
Jane Disher, NUR '57
David A. Drevlow, NUR '05
Elsie Dye, NUR '54
Jo Edwards, NUR '93
Kirsten Elliott, NUR '09
Lou Eubanks, NUR '58; In Memory of Janice B. Williams
Kim Eul, NUR '98
Amy Faile, RT '05; Susan Stricker Scholarship
Rhoda Farrell, NUR '10
Frances Fischer, NUR '66
Kelly Freeman, NUR '10
Stephanie L. Frey, NUR '08
Elizabeth C. Garmon, NUR '93; In Memory of Diane
Corder
Vivian A. Gilliam, NUR '54
Vicki G. Gore, MLS '74
Mary Anna G. Gravely, NUR '48
Barbara G. Gray, NUR '51
Elizabeth H. Greene, NUR '60; In Memory of Nancy

Janet Huffman, NUR '05
Jessica Hunsinger, NUR '09
Wade & Kim J. Jackson, RT '91; In Honor of "Ant" Lucy
Davison
Whitney Jackson, RT '09
Sandra Jessup, NUR '96
Anna Johnson, MLS '10
Heather Jones, NUR '04
Sue H. Jones, NUR '67
Shanell Keah, NUR '10
Katie H. Kim, MLS '06
Mr. & Mrs. Albert L. Lambeth, Jr., Friend of CCHS;
In Memory of Martha Buchanan
Edith Larsen, NUR '58; Elinor Caddell Scholarship
Steven Lennartz, EMS '04
Janette Lowman, NUR '60; In Honor of Children:
Darrell, Karen, Cheryl & Suzy
Deborah Lynch, NUR '05
Jennifer Mabry, MLS '92; Betty Anderson Scholarship
Robyn Mahoney, NUR '03
Leslie Manley, MLS '94
Patsy Martin, NUR '56
Sheila Matthews, NUR '10
Betty McCartin, NUR '51
Carolyn McCoy, NUR '55
Mary McElhannon, NUR '06
Meghan McManus, NUR '10
Melani McNinch, NUR '10
Joyce H. Merritt, NUR '54
Karen Metler, NUR '96
Shelby Moore, NUR '61
Margaret Morgan, NUR '58; In Memory of Barbara W.
Norris
Phyllis Mork, NUR '61
Gretchen Mortimer-Thill, NUR '12
Mary Morton, NUR '53; In Memory of John Crawford
Faye C. Mullis, NUR '56
Lauren Mundorf, NUR '09
Zach Murphy, NUR '09

Hilda H. Patterson, NUR '54
Marcus T. Patterson, NUR '06
Andrea D. Peay, MLS '02
Wanda Pospahala, NUR '48
Sarah Reed, Friend of CCHS
Alice C. Riddle, MLS '78
Carolyn Rotman, NUR '63
Lois Russell, NUR '61
Samantha Schuller, NUR '12
Joyce Short, NUR '66
Kayla Simpson, NUR '11
Samantha Slaton, NUR '12
Braden Smith, Friend of CCHS
Marlene Smith, NUR '60; In Honor of Libby Greene &
Martha Myrick
Matthew Smith, NUR '12
Monique Smith, Student Nurse
Valerie Snyder, NUR '92
Mary Ann Stewart, NUR '51
Wendy Strader, NUR '07
Anita Taft, NUR '61
Carolyn Talley, NUR '52; Elinor Caddell Scholarship in
Memory of Sara Derby
Patsy Thompson, NUR '54
Mary Ann E. Watson, NUR '62
Sue Watson, NUR '53
Susan Wedding, ST '10
Brenda West, NUR '62
Jeanette Williams, NUR '58
Tara C. Witham, RT '05
Sarah Womack, NUR '48
Jenna Won, NUR '05
Alice H. Wood, NUR '56
Janice G. Wright, NUR '57; In Honor of SON Class of
1957
Harris York, NUR '60

WHY we give...



Kathy Bruce & Karey Bruton: Kathy Bruce (NUR '64) and Karey Bruton (NUR '12), recipient of the 2013 Kathy Bruce Scholarship

KATHY BRUCE CORE VALUES SCHOLARSHIP

The Kathy Bruce Core Values Scholarship recognizes the long and dedicated service of Kathy H. Bruce, alumnus of Charlotte Memorial Hospital School of Nursing, Class of 1964. It is given to a nursing student in memory of Kathy's sister, Shirley Ann Harrell, and recognizes the core values of Carolinas HealthCare System and Carolinas College of Health Sciences: Commitment – Integrity – Teamwork – Caring.

I wanted to honor my sister who died at age 14. She looked up to me and told everyone that her sister was going to be a nurse. What better way to honor her than to set up a scholarship in her memory?

I met with Dr. Ellen Sheppard, President, Carolinas College of Health Sciences, and Scott Kerr, Vice President, Carolinas Healthcare Foundation, to discuss the process and learned that if I could contribute \$10,000 this would be the start of an endowed scholarship that would go on forever. This was also a way for me to give back to CHS, the System that had given me so much.

– Kathy Bruce, RN,
Class of 1964



DeWitt, Kyle and Eileen Black at Kyle's graduation.

HELPING HAND SCHOLARSHIP

The CCHS Helping Hand Scholarship is awarded to a CCHS student in need due to unusual life circumstances.

The call came early on a Friday morning. The tree behind our son Kyle's home – a big tree – had fallen on his car and crushed it. Barbie, his 1999 Malibu, was a goner. This was upsetting in more than one way. For his mother, this had been her first showroom-new car, passed down to Kyle. For Kyle, it meant no transportation and the impediment that would cause. Word reached the school and he received a concerned phone call on Sunday. Later, the school contributed through the Helping Hand Scholarship to help him financially toward a replacement car.

My wife and I both have over 20 years of experience working for CHS facilities. We have been proud of our affiliation with CHS, and this was strengthened by the Carolinas College of Health Sciences' benevolent expression of concern for our son. This went beyond concern about just his academic performance, but expressed concern about him as a person in need. We wanted to participate in the good will that is obviously a part of Carolinas College of Health Sciences. We decided that the best way to do so was to contribute to the Helping Hand Scholarship; helping another student in need with the assistance that will get them through a tough spot. Thank you CCHS, not just for caring about quality scholarships, but for also caring about the welfare of the person.

– DeWitt and Eileen Black
Parents of Kyle Black, nursing student and
2012 Helping Hand Scholarship Recipient

alumni pathways

If there is news you'd like to share with classmates, please send that via our website: www.CarolinasCollege.edu/AlumniandFriends/StayinginTouch, or to ruth.mihal@carolinashealthcare.org.

High quality photos (digital only) are terrific and will be printed if space allows.

Key:

EMS	Emergency Medical Science
MLS	Medical Laboratory Science
NUR	Nursing
RT	Radiologic Technology
RTT	Radiation Therapy
ST	Surgical Technology

Class of 1948

Betsey Waddell Copley (NUR) has moved to assisted living in Raleigh, NC. Contact Pat Lewis at 704-355-2029 for Betsy's address.

Class of 1954

Nancy Murray (NUR) moved to Plantation Estates, an adult assisted living community in Matthews, NC. She joins alums **Elinor Caddell** (NUR '44), **Ann Miller** (NUR '47), and **Garland "Smitty" Smith** (NUR '59) who also live at Plantation.

Anne McGinnis Pless (NUR) recently celebrated her 80th birthday.

Class of 1956

Phyllis Harris Baines' (NUR) husband Gurney Baines passed away in January 2013.

Class of 1957

Alice Wilkinson (NUR) reports that it snowed a foot in mid-March at her home in Quebec, Canada, when it was 70 degrees in Charlotte! Her husband, a physician she met while she was in nurses training and he was a medical resident training in Charlotte, suffered a stroke a few years ago, but he's made great progress in recovery and rehabilitation. She encourages classmates to have frequent reunions: "Ten years is too long in between!"

Class of 1958

Linda Patton Nance (NUR) reports that she is doing well as she continues treatment for a recurrence of cancer and appreciates all the expressions of love, support, and prayers. She recently sold her mountain home in Montreat. She was recently selected as the UNC-Wilmington Distinguished Alumnus of the Year for 2013.

Class of 1960

Wishes for a speedy recovery are extended to **Joretta Coble Efir** (NUR) who is recovering from knee surgery.

Lynda Ellington (NUR) died at her home in Satsuma, FL on Feb. 17, 2013. Our sincere sympathy is extended to her best friend and housemate, Marge Summerlin. Lynda also had a close association with her Episcopalian Church family.

Marlene Smith, Martha Myrick, and Libby Green (NUR) enjoyed a brief visit in Winston-Salem in late February. Martha is doing well and visited her family in Orlando for the Easter holidays. Call or email Libby Green with any news: 704-663-5009, egreene@windstream.net.

Class of 1963

Donna Hall Collins (NUR) recently moved to Spotsylvania, VA, to be closer to family.

Class of 1990

Julie J. (MLS) recently returned from East Africa where she made plans to help local staff record "Walking with Jesus" in Swahili. Julie's worked with The Jesus Film for several years, but the current project – recording the Jesus Film in 11 African languages - is the most ambitious to date. If you'd like to contact Julie or support her work, Pat Lewis will provide contact information: 704-355-2029.

Collette Jones (MLS) works for LabCorp supervising a flow lab in Research Triangle Park.

Class of 1991

Kristi (Caison) Allen (MLS) works at Onslow Memorial Hospital Lab in Jacksonville, NC.

Kristi has worked as the Medical Technology Supervisor over the Hematology, Coagulation, Serology, and Urinalysis departments for almost seven years. Says Kristi, "Over the years since graduation, I have worked as a Medical Technologist at Columbus Regional Healthcare System and New Hanover Medical Group Physician's office lab prior to my current position."

Mike Rushing (MLS) moved to Kentucky from South Carolina when Mike accepted his current position as IT Program Director for UK HealthCare at the University of Kentucky in Lexington.



Above: Mike and Terna Rushing at Berea College.
Below: "Mega Church" in Kenya by Julie J.



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Class of 1992

Theresa Maxwell (NUR) was recently inducted into the Great 100 Nurses for 2012.

Class of 1993

Claire Ensz (NUR) is working as a staff nurse (GI Endoscopy) at the VA Medical Center in Sioux Falls, SD.

Class of 1994

Charles Gold (NUR) returned to bedside nursing (Surgical Trauma ICU) with Carolinas HealthCare System after being away for several years. During his time away he was the president, CEO, and one of the owners of a successful, Joint Commission-certified, travel nurse staffing firm. Says Charles, "As my role with the firm came to a close, I also resumed my education and am on track to complete my BSN next September."

Holly Hardison (NUR) enrolled in Winston-Salem State University for her BSN.

Tammie Heinzman (NUR) received her BSN in March 2012 and is currently enrolled in an MSN program.

Lisa Shelton Mauney (MLS) is currently doing clinical research performing a vast array of clinical trials in collaboration with a physician. She was the laboratory director for 14 years for a large family practice in Shelby, NC.

Tim Ludwig (RT) was elected to the Board of Governors of the Shriners Hospital for Children in Greenville, SC.

Class of 1995

Todd Hawkins (NUR) lives in Greensboro, NC, and works for Allscripts. Todd's a senior project manager in charge of the implementation of electronic health records (EHR) systems with the goal of achieving "meaningful use" and "core objectives" as defined by ARRA.

Class of 1996

Suzanne "Suzi" Kuykendall (NUR) was selected to participate in MPWRS, a mentoring group for junior executive women within Carolinas HealthCare System. Selection is competitive and is based on professional accomplishments and executive promise.

Robin McAreavy (NUR) worked as a 2nd shift nurse manager for the Katrina victims at the superdome arena in New Orleans. She works for Carolinas Healthcare System, managing the pediatric homecare discharges/visits/admissions on weekends.

Karen Metler (NUR) earned her BSN in March 2013. She has been accepted into the master's program at Maryville University.

Amanda "Mandy" Muller (NUR) had a baby boy in September 2012.

Class of 1997

Paige Fain (MLS) is a lab tech consultant with Physician Services Group.

Class of 1998

Teywonia Byrd (NUR) is a CRNA and lives in Virginia Beach, VA.

Kim Earls Eul (NUR) will have worked for 15 years with Dialysis Clinic, Inc., in Gaffney, SC, as of September 2013.

Jamilla Hasan-Jones (NUR) was named Interim Chief Nursing Officer at Piedmont Healthcare in Rock Hill, SC, January 2013.

Class of 1999

Rachel Davis (NUR) completed her BSN in 2013.

Class of 2000

Erin Martin Hackney (MLS) and husband William welcomed their son Davis in August,

2012. Big brother Jamison is 4 years old. Erin is a stay-at-home mom.

Alisha Moore Kazakov (NUR) welcomed identical twin boys, Jordan and Jacob, December 8, 2012. Alisha and her husband are also parents to 2-year old Sophia.

Class of 2001

Carrie McGrady (MLS) works at Lake Norman Regional Medical Center and CMC-Huntersville ER. She and husband Donovan have three girls, Rachel (9), Emily (4) and Hannah (2).

D. Judd Osborne (ST, NUR '06) and wife **Christina Ragusin Osborne** (ST '07) are parents to 22-month old daughter Raygan and are anxiously awaiting the birth of their son, David Jacob "Jake" in mid-June. Judd was recently promoted to AMN at CMC Mercy and spends time leading the CUP Ministry, a men's group that reaches out to homeless men here in Charlotte.

Tammy Sanders (RT) married Greg Johnson on November 28, 2012.

Class of 2002

Amy Payne Farmer (NUR) lives in Wilmington, NC, and is a certified nurse midwife working part time at the local health department.

Nicole Shipley Mohrmann (MLS) is a chemistry shift supervisor at Genova Diagnostics in Asheville, NC, where she lives with husband Joe.

Class of 2003

James Hermann, Jr., (NUR) announced the birth of daughter Emily Noelle on 7/29/12.

Class of 2004

Kelly Cunningham (NUR) is engaged to Scott Carlisle and they will be married in September 2013. Kelly is also a 2012 Daisy Award recipient.

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Bernadette Dorney Johnson (NUR) adopted a baby in late summer 2012.

Ingrid Kemp (NUR) lives in Arizona and is working in a psychiatric adult outpatient clinic.

Lisa Nona (NUR) completed the PeriOp 101 training program for the OR in August 2012 and was assigned to the SHVI service (cardiac, thoracic and vascular surgery). In September, she was sworn in to the North Carolina Air National Guard as a flight nurse.

Class of 2005

Angie Keathley Corcoran (NUR) and husband Josh (also a nurse) have settled in Tempe, AZ, after working as traveling nurses.

Deborah “Debby” Lynch (NUR) is the supervisor over the neonatal nurse practitioner program at Greenville Hospital System.

Pamela Mason (NUR) is the clinical care coordinator for the OB division at Carolinas Medical Center. Pam was recently inducted into the Great 100 Nurses for NC.

Meredith Woody Large (NUR) and husband moved to Asheville, NC, and are the proud parents of Emerson Kathryn, born on November 20, 2012.

April Glover Payne (MLS) and husband **Chris** (NUR '11) welcomed son Brody Levi in August 2012. Brody joins brothers Ayden (2) and Lucas (1).

Class of 2006

Will Borders (MLS) and wife Adrienne welcomed daughter Willow Grace born April 2013. He also started the CCHS Young Alumni Council this year.

Janet Bowen’s (RT) daughter Amanda has been accepted to start in the CCHS nursing program in January 2013.

Laura Carter (NUR) is the palliative care nurse liaison for all of Carolinas Medical Center.

Caroline (Mattox) da Silveira (NUR) worked in a cardiac telemetry unit for two years after graduation. She then went to work as a private scrub nurse at Charlotte Plastic Surgery and is now working at the Dickson Heart ICU at Carolinas Medical Center.

Katie Hahn Kim (MLS) works as the pathology services supervisor at LabCorp.

Leslie Morgan (formerly Bilbro) (MLS) is now employed in Molecular Pathology at CMC-Mercy.

Class of 2007

Kelly Barber (ST) received her RN from Mercy School of Nursing in December 2011.

Karissa Cail (NUR) has returned to Charlotte after working as a missionary in South Sudan. She and Andrew Jordan are planning a spring 2013 wedding.

Ella Chen (MLS) and husband Tony welcomed son Lucas on March 12, 2013.



Willow Grace Borders, daughter of Will (MLS '06) and Adrienne Borders,

Tiffany Sisk Daniel (ST) and husband are parents to son Mason, who just turned 1 year old.

Kate Knauff (MLS) and husband David welcomed son Cole Christopher on 10/15/12; big brother Blake is 2½. The Knauffs have moved to Lakeville, MN.

John Morris (NUR) received the Bayada Home Health Care “National Hometown Hero of the Year” award and will be going to Hershey, PA, in June 2013 to accept the award.

Thomas Nagel (EMS) received his NC paramedic license.

Yvette Fortin Poitras (MLS) and husband Cory welcomed daughter Mya in June 2012. She joins brothers Michael (2 ½) and Matthew (6). Yvette is a stay at home mom and teaches an online chemistry course for an MLS program at Mesa State College.

Christina Ragusin Osborne and **D. Judd Osborne** (ST '01) are parents to 22-month old daughter Raygan and are anxiously awaiting the birth of their son, David Jacob “Jake” in mid-June.

Joshua Stiles (NUR) is working in the medical ICU at Pitt County Memorial in Greenville. He and wife **Lee Ann** (Mercy SON '07) are living on their sailboat docked in New Bern, NC, but hope to buy a historic home in Washington, NC, soon. Josh is taking classes hoping to start the RN-to-BSN program and eventually earn a family nurse practitioner degree.

Courtney Nuckols (NUR) received national certification as a CCTC (Clinically Certified Transplant Coordinator). Says Courtney, “I worked on 10 Tower after graduation caring for transplant patients but am now working for the

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Medical College of Georgia as a post-transplant coordinator and I absolutely love it. I owe all of this to the wonderful instructors and educators at CCHS. I will forever be grateful.”

Rebecca Tarte Taylor (NUR) moved to Michigan in 2009 for her husband’s job. She now works in the pediatric ICU at Children’s Hospital of Michigan in Detroit. Rebecca received her BSN from UNCC. They have a 1-year-old and hope to be moving back to Charlotte within a couple of years.

Jennifer Westbrook (NUR) recently adopted a boy from China.

Class of 2008

Jacquelyn DiNunzio (NUR) welcomed her second baby boy on Feb. 22, 2013.

Class of 2009

Cassie Begay (MLS) married Greg Huneycutt in September 2012.

Danielle Donovan (ST) welcomed son Eli on New Year’s Day 2013.

Sarah Goldberg (MLS) graduated from West Virginia University’s Pathology Assistant program and is employed as a Pathology Assistant at Central Florida Pathology Associates in Orlando, FL.

Chris Kincaid (MLS) and wife Sherika welcomed son Carson in July 2012.

Lauren Nickels (MLS) married Matt Walden and they welcomed son Joseph in February 2013.

Holly Ritger (NUR) went to Kisoro, Uganda.

Rachel Teeter (MLS) has been working at LabCorp since July, 2012.

Chrisey Xiong Yang (MLS) and husband welcomed daughter Bailey in May 2012.

Class of 2010

Anissia Douglas (NUR) is living in Rochester, NY, and has a 13-month old son, Jhordan.

Lindsey Gillock (NUR) married Christopher Whitley on September 17, 2011, and they welcomed daughter Emmylou Jeanne in October 2012.



Lindsey Gillock Whitley and Christopher with daughter Emmylou Jeanne (below).



Erika Hoover (MLS) works at CMC-Mercy as a generalist in the lab.

Shanelle Williams Keah (NUR) earned her BSN from UNC-Chapel Hill in 2011 and is working part-time toward an MSN-Family Nurse Practitioner degree at Winston-Salem State University. She works in the Emergency Department at CMC-University.

Laura Kosloske (NUR) received a BSN from UNCC in August 2012, and is working on the pediatric progressive care floor at Levine Children’s Hospital.

Jennifer Taylor Mathay (NUR) completed a BSN (Winston-Salem State) and earned certification in inpatient obstetrics. She works in the PACU at Forsyth Medical Center and is mom to Drum and Charlotte.

Meghan McManus (NUR) completed her cardiovascular certification on March 20, 2013.

Amanda Murphy (MLS) works in the lab at MMG-Southpark.

Leah Ostroff (MLS) is back in Charlotte and working in the chemistry department of Carolinas Medical Center.

Carolyn Pettus (ST) received her RN from CCHS in December 2012.

Michael Pinto (NUR) married **Mary Gore, RN**, who works at CMC 4 Tower (oncology), on July 9, 2011; they met during CHS nursing orientation. Michael has been working since 2010 on 11 Tower (orthopedic-trauma).

Kirsten Roer (MLS) and husband Aaron welcomed daughter Kora Danleigh in December 2012.

Courtney Russell-Roche (ST) and husband are parents to son Ian, who just turned 1 year old.

Aimee Thompson (MLS) accepted a position with Northern Hospital of Surry County in Mt. Airy, NC.

Class of 2011

Pam Cornell (NUR) is celebrating 10 years as a breast cancer survivor. She and two other cancer survivors, "The Three Breastkateers," will walk 39 miles in the Avon Walk for Breast Cancer. She hopes to raise \$6,000 for breast cancer research and victim assistance.

Destini Egan (ST) has relocated and is working as a surgical technologist in Las Vegas, NV.

Tiffany Sterrett (MLS) married Thomas Sino-dis on June 2, 2012, at Disney World.

Brittany Hollingsworth (MLS) lives in Ararat, VA, and is employed by Northern Hospital of Surry County in Mt Airy, NC.

Chris Payne (NUR) and wife **April Glover**



Pam Cornell as one of The Three Breastkateers

(MLS '05) welcomed son Brody Levi in August 2012. Brody joins brothers Ayden (2) and Lucas (1).

Katie Schreiber (MLS) is working at Denver Health Medical Center laboratory and resides in Golden, CO.

Kim Whitworth (MLS) works in the lab at Levine Cancer Institute.



Tiffany Sterrett (MLS '11) and her husband Thomas at their June 2012 wedding.

Class of 2012

Crista Deckert (RT) passed the registry speciality exam in mammography.

McCoy Goforth (NUR) is a 2012 Daisy Award recipient.

Brittany Stanley (MLS) works in the Hematology department at CMC.

Brooke Smith (NUR) married David Clemmer on September 8, 2012.

Haley Stewart (NUR) works at CMC-Pineville on 2 West, a cardiac telemetry floor.

Rebecca Visco (NUR) works on 3 Tower at CMC.

In Memoriam

Class of 1960

Lynda Ellington, NUR

Class of 1964

Phyllis Tipton Baird, NUR

CONNECTIONS PROFILE UPDATE

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Publications Manager | CCHS | Post Office Box 32861 | Charlotte, North Carolina 28232-2861

Or update profile information online at www.CarolinasCollege.edu.

Click on ALUMNI and then ALUMNI ADDRESS & NEWS.

Class of 1963 Honored at 50-Year Reunion



May 3, 2013, was a special day for 18 nurses and one medical laboratory scientist. After months of planning, emailing, facebooking, writing, and phoning, it was show time! Women were coming together in Charlotte who hadn't seen one another in 50 years. A few had attended the College's homecoming in 2010, but they'd never had a true class reunion.

The weekend's activities kicked off with a lovely dinner in uptown Charlotte. The sole MLS graduate in attendance thought she'd know no one, but quickly ran into a nursing alumnus with whom she's shared an apartment after graduation! Some recognized one another immediately; others took a bit longer. But once the stories and laughter began flowing, the years seemed to fade away. Stories were shared of favorite (and dreaded) faculty, of travels throughout the world, of loves lost and adventures lived. Special praise was given to Carolyn Rotman who had worked tirelessly to find so many "lost" members of her class.

Alumni attended the commencement ceremony and were recognized individually after Dr. Sheppard reminded the 800 in attendance of what the world was like in 1963: the cold war, the Beatles' first hit single, gas for 35 cents a gallon. The weekend continued with breakfast and tours at Carolinas Medical Center and an introduction to medical simulation at the College. Congratulations, Charlotte Memorial Class of 1963, don't stay away so long next time!