



# GREENLEAF

## Save the Date

Winter 2017 | [sfmcon.edu](http://sfmcon.edu)

### Evening at the Vineyard

FRIDAY, JUNE 2

Mark your calendars now for June 2, 2017, the "Alumni Evening at the Vineyard," sponsored by the College of Nursing. Join us for an evening of good food, good wine and great friends. Talk to your classmates and plan a get together for June. The event is for alumni and guests. Watch for your invitations to arrive in April. Hope to see you there!

### Alumni Award Nominations

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

Deadline for submitting nominations is June 1.

Please honor the alumnus you know that has gone above and beyond in the nursing profession and nominate them for an Alumni Award. New deadline for submitting nominations is June 1, 2017. Awards will be announced at Homecoming on September 23, 2017. Nomination form and guidelines are enclosed.

See back cover for full Calendar of Events.

 Find us on Facebook at [facebook.com/sfmcon](http://facebook.com/sfmcon)

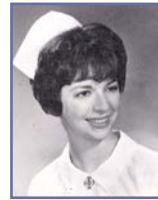
## Class of 1966 *Celebrated their 50th Reunion*



Jolene Baima  
Colsant



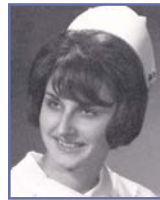
Barb Bontz  
Ekstrum



Patricia Cassel  
Stachowiak



Carol Cleary  
Kloud



Janet Clusky  
McCaw



Diane Dobbelaere  
Van Bell



Linda Frasco  
Osika



Maureen Kelly  
Godfrey



Jeanne Klipp  
Bailey



Catherine Pavich  
Baxter



Carol Phillips  
Doyle



Lois Walgrave  
Goudreau



2016

# Letter from the College President

Patricia A. Stockert, RN, PhD



Dear Alumni and Friends,

As I write for this issue of Notes from Greenleaf, we are winding down 2016 and it has been another busy year at the College of Nursing. I hope that this issue finds you well. This issue highlights the 2016 Homecoming events, which featured a number of classes celebrating milestones, including the Class of 1966, celebrating 50 years! I was happy to see so many alumni come back to the College for the Alumni Members Brunch and the Dinner Celebration. I hope many of you can plan ahead and join us next year for the festivities on September 23, 2017. Once again, the enjoyment for me comes from meeting and talking with alumni from the different classes. I encourage you to consider nominating someone you know for an award next year!

Here are some highlights so far from the 2016-2017 academic year:

- We experienced another good enrollment and started the school year in August with 644 students for fall 2016 in all programs. There were 389 students in the BSN program, 221 students in the MSN, nine in the post-graduate certificate option, and 25 students in the DNP programs.
- We received approximately 200 admission applications for the BSN program for fall 2017.
- Our students are using the newly replaced birthing and child simulators in the Nursing Resource Center. Thank you for your generosity in donating to the Annual Campaign for purchase of the simulators.
- The College hosted a successful accreditation visit from the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE). The accreditors were here to review all three degree programs. Final word will come from the board of commissioners in April 2017.
- Thanks to all our alumni and friends, we awarded approximately \$187,000 in scholarships to 130 students for the 2016-2017 year. It is through your generosity that this is possible and I send you a heartfelt thank you.

As economic times continue to be challenging, we remain focused on increasing endowments and scholarships for our students. The continued decrease in federal and state funding for student financial aid presents challenges to students. A donation of \$1,000 or more will provide a named scholarship for a student. I hope that you will consider making a gift this year when your annual appeal letter arrives.

You are a very important part of the College family and it is our goal to stay connected.

*Patricia A. Stockert, RN, PhD*

## ALUMNI UPDATE



Greetings!

It is that time of year when we reflect on the past while planning for the future. As always, the Alumni Association is blessed with positive thoughts regarding both.

In 2016, the Alumni Association grew in size and spirit and for that we are thankful. Membership in our association allows us to assist the college and build our legacy in multiple ways. We were able to provide scholarships, gifts to students at holiday times and assist in College functions where our service is always needed and appreciated. Our meetings at area restaurants provide the opportunity to socialize, meet new alumni and brainstorm ideas that can help us to grow. Our October meeting, for example, brought a speaker on palliative care, which provided insight into this growing patient population in need of service.

As we enter the new year, remember your alma mater and consider joining us for a meeting or event. We welcome new ideas and your presence!

I hope you had a blessed holiday season and a happy New Year filled with all that is good!



Mary Donnelly, '79  
President of  
Alumni Association

# Two New Faces in the Nursing Resource Center

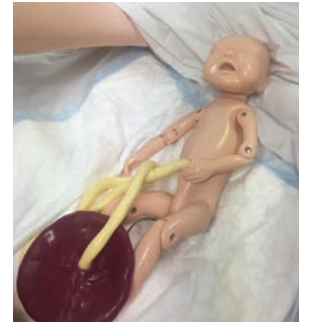
This spring the College purchased two new simulation manikins for the Resource Center. Replaced were the birthing simulator manikin and the child manikin. Students use both manikins three to four days a week throughout the semester. The manikins are used on clinical simulation days, as part of learning activities during theory sections of elective courses, and during clinical post-conferences.

During simulations, the students perform nursing care for the patients experiencing a variety of health problems. The purpose of the simulation activities are to develop realistic standardized learning activities using patient simulation



to increase student knowledge, critical thinking, communication skills, decision making, priority setting, delegation, and skills performance in predictable and unpredictable environments. The students practice in the simulated setting and then apply their knowledge and

skills on the clinical units caring for actual patients. The two simulation manikins may also be used in the graduate programs for assessment practice and simulation.



Funding for the manikins was obtained through the use of two planned gifts to the College and funds raised during the spring annual appeal. The College was the recipient of a planned gift from the estate of Mary Jane Fiorini Banks, Class of 1955. Additional funds came from the planned gift of Magdalene Baumann, Director of Saint Francis Hospital School of Nursing from 1968-1976, who at the time of her passing left her estate to the College of Nursing. The College Annual Appeal this spring focused on replacement of the birthing manikin. Alumni and friends were asked to contribute a donation which was used towards the purchase of the birthing simulator.

## Consider a Planned Gift

Micki McCarthy, OSF Foundation

Your support of Saint Francis Medical Center College of Nursing is deeply appreciated! Your support has added so many opportunities for our students. Opportunities like much needed scholarships, updated classroom equipment and so much more. Now, supporting your alma mater has never been easier and can provide even greater tax benefits!

Congress enacted a permanent extension of the IRA charitable rollover in 2015. This legislation is called the Protecting Americans from Tax Hikes Act of 2015, or the PATH Act. As a result of this legislation, individuals age 70½ or older can make gifts directly from their IRA to a qualified charity, like Saint Francis Medical Center College of Nursing, by rolling the funds over directly to charity without creating a taxable event for themselves. To meet the requirements set up by this legislation, your gift

would be rolled over to OSF HealthCare System to support any area you wish at the College of Nursing, including scholarships!

### Benefits of an IRA charitable rollover

- Gifts made from your IRA (up to \$100,000 per year) are not reportable as taxable income for you.
- These rollover gifts also qualify for your required minimum distribution (RMD).

The OSF Healthcare Foundation is happy to help you with your rollover gift by providing a sample request letter for your plan administrator. The process is simple, and the impact is lasting! Please contact the Office of Planned Giving at the OSF Healthcare Foundation at (309) 566-5653 or (877) 574-5678 (toll free) for more information.







# Proud of our Own

## New Edition of Potter, Perry, Stockert, and Hall *Fundamentals of Nursing* published

Let's congratulate all of our CON authors and reviewers for their contributions to an outstanding nursing textbook. The faculty from the College are well represented in the textbook!

Dr. Patti Stockert, president of the College, is the book co-author and contributed five chapters, which included: The Health Care Delivery System, Health and Wellness, Managing Patient Care, Health Assessment and Physical Examination, and Sleep.

Five faculty members contributed the following chapters to the nursing text:

- **Dr. Bev Reynolds**, (*Diploma 1975, BSN 1989*) Theoretical Foundations of Nursing Practice
- **Cheryl Crowe**, Communication
- **Dr. Lorri Graham**, (*Diploma 1984, BSN 1996, DNP 2016*) Infection Prevention and Control
- **Patti O'Connor**, (*MSN 2007*) Hygiene
- **Kristine Rose**, (*BSN 1988, MSN 2007*) Nutrition

Two faculty members were chapter reviewers for the text. Dr. Leigh Ann Bonney (BSN 2003, MSN 2007) and Dr. Crystal Slaughter (BSN 2004, MSN 2007, DNP 2012) reviewed assigned chapters and provided feedback to the contributors.



## Please Help Us Find These Alumni



The College has lost touch with the following alumni. If you have contact information for any of them, please share with Helene Batzek, Alumni Representative, at (309) 624-9933 or [helene.batzek@osfhealthcare.org](mailto:helene.batzek@osfhealthcare.org).

### CLASS OF 1977

Brenda Cailteux Ader  
 Clairemarie Balcaen Borgwardt  
 Kathleen Kokotek Defreitas  
 Linda McLeese Eardley  
 Margaret Scherzer Goodrich  
 Patricia Pfister Knoblauch  
 Mary Surr Kubiak  
 Phyllis Wiegand Leman  
 Stephani McClure  
 Linda Mehochko  
 Jane Myers  
 John Despin Perino  
 Sana DeVries Regnier  
 Deborah Smith Reuscher  
 Susan Foster Savage  
 Sue Schettler  
 Melissa Ciszewski Schneider

Janis Stephenson  
 Margaret Sullivan  
 Sally Spencer Waspi

### CLASS OF 1978

Janet Runyon Bachelder  
 Andrea Ketcham Beals  
 Diana Brown  
 Cathy Jackson Bruce  
 Donna Bernabei Caravaggio  
 Cheryl Colgan  
 Marianne Kupsco Cosentiono  
 Rosemary Possley Cousins  
 Barbara Flood  
 Julie Bourquin Frutiger  
 Cynthia Nicklaus Gabany  
 Dana Goodman  
 Michael Hagey

Marcella Bodine Heger  
 Debra Otten Honings  
 Deborah Lohnes Johnson  
 Laura Lambird  
 Sheila Welch Leininger  
 Kathy Sanders Lusher  
 Carol Trebs MacLean  
 Catherine Brennan Marchand  
 Janice Fuchs Miller  
 Karyn Schafer Rezinis  
 Maureen Ritchie-McKinney  
 Schmidt  
 Candace Janssen Smith  
 Jeffery Stoffels  
 Martyn Kreienkamp Stonebach  
 Jane Steffen Studebaker  
 Nancy Wauthier Trost  
 Patricia McLeese Wyant

### CLASS OF 1979

Cyndi Ballinger Ambrosch  
 Cheryl Sisk Boo  
 Mary Ann Dillon Burke  
 Jane Newbold Curry  
 Georgia Fuller Fine  
 Cathy Ren Firestone  
 Christine Garrett  
 Joyce Justice  
 Nancy Kobald Norcross  
 Christine Liljeberg  
 Beth Washko McFall  
 Tim Sporer Meyer  
 Lisa Noll  
 Cynthia Carneu Root  
 Deborah Swayze Stedman

# Keep In Touch



**1941**

**Elizabeth Jay Harmon**

I was privileged to visit Peoria for the first time in almost 50 years by accompanying my son on a business trip, with the highlight being a visit to Saint Francis Medical Center College of Nursing. We were greeted with warm hospitality and given a tour of the buildings. I found it to be as interesting as my first day of school in the fall of 1938, and memories started to emerge.

As I think back, the cost of enrollment was under \$100, which covered room, board, books and uniforms for three years! Our country was in a deep financial depression, people were unemployed and families were struggling to survive. Every day one would see a long line of men extending from the kitchen door of the hospital towards the bridge and around the corner, carrying containers that the nuns filled with soup made from leftovers after patients and staff were fed.

In sharp contrast to today's procedures, students scrubbed in to assist in surgery and were tasked at the end of surgery with cleaning instruments as well as washing and drying surgical gloves for reuse the following day. As students, our time was split between classroom study and working shifts in the hospital.

None of us could afford an automobile and could barely scrape enough money together for a bus ticket home, much less think about any unnecessary shopping.

With the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, the American Red Cross was tasked with recruiting nurses and many of my class chose to enlist and served in both the European and Pacific theaters. I was privileged to serve as an Army nurse stationed first in New Guinea and later in Townsville, Australia.

**1946**

**Dorothy J. Alexander MacDade**

Dorothy, writes that she is 92 and has been retired longer than she can remember. She spent all of her years of nursing in OB. She was head nurse in Labor and Delivery at St. Luke's Hospital in Davenport, Iowa and had eight

children. Dorothy graduated as part of a class of 90 in 1946, which, at that time, was the largest class ever graduated from St. Francis Hospital School of Nursing. Graduation was held in the auditorium of the Shrine Mosque at that time.

**1957**

**Marilyn Harler Wilken**

We are still in Washington state - Vancouver, Washington - across the river from Portland. Two of our sons are in the area, one (David) is an RN at Oregon Health Sciences in Portland. Our son from Germany and his family are visiting this month. We did not make it to Mid-Illinois this year, maybe next year. Wishing you all a good year.

**1971**

**Karolyn Hunt Lambert**

Now living in Bourbonnais, Illinois, retired. Received my BSN in 1991 at Olivet Nazarene University.

**1974**

**Patty Kandiko**

Now living in Grand Junction, Colorado, working as a CNM. Received my BSN in 1992 at Fond du Lac College and my MSN in 2012, Frontier University, Midwifery program.

**1976**

**Nancy Krause Smet**

I live in the Seattle area, and am still going strong in my nursing career. Please see my profile on LinkedIn if you are interested.

**2006**

**Sara Jobe Althiser**

Got married October 18, 2008. Began working at Illinois Cancer Care in August 2010. Obtained my OCN-Oncology certified nurse in December 2013.

**2012**

**Alonzo Lucas**

Now living in Arlington, Virginia. Graduating with MSN Executive Leadership from George Mason University.

## NEW ALUMNI ASSOCIATION MEMBERS



The College is pleased to recognize the newest Alumni Association Members:

Corrie Ackerman	2015
Lindsey Burke	2015
Abigail Carter	2015
Stacy Creger McCance	1996
Darlene Esken	2016
Stephanie Price	2015
Thomas Starr	2005
Courtney Stear	2014
CJ Wright-Boon	2012

## NEW LIFETIME MEMBERS

Marge Hodel	2008
Andrea Hoerr	2013
Melissa Mooney Joos	2002
Kristina Marshall	1997, 2007
Stephanie Blevins McCabe	2001
Marilyn Harler Wilken	1957

## In Memoriam



*Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. May their soul and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.*

Irene Fellin Bergen – 1940  
Sister Alanna Ring – 1949  
Susan Bertlshofer Knight – 1953  
Elaine Jackson Bryson – 1954  
Loretta Brennan Katchmar – 1954  
Dorothy Kelly – 1958  
Julie Kennedy Smolen – 1960  
Thomas Hood – 1974  
Amy Fleming Trau – 1985, 1990  
Lisa Brown Morrissey – 1997  
Brett Roth – 2013



SATURDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2016

# HOMECOMING



## Homecoming Brunch

The Alumni Homecoming Brunch was held in OSF Saint Francis Medical Center's 700 Auditorium this year. Members of the Class of 1956 celebrated a 60th Reunion at the Homecoming Brunch. Members of the 60-year reunion class included Ruth Von Nordheim Cunningham, Lorraine Beyn Happach, Idella Hartwig Lee, Marcella Allen McCann and Mary Utsch Simonson. A delicious brunch was provided by OSF Saint Francis Medical Center Catering. Dr. Patricia A. Stockert, RN, PhD, president of the College, provided her annual "State of The College" address and answered questions from the group. Tours of the College were also provided.

## Festivities

The Alumni Homecoming festivities continued that evening at the Jump Trading Simulation & Education Center with a wonderful buffet dinner and music. Classes celebrating big anniversaries that evening included members from 1961 (55th), 1966 (50th), 1976 (40th) and 1981 (35th). Included in the festivities was a silent basket auction that raised over \$700 for the Alumni Scholarship Fund (see photo). Thank you to Jean Holmes and her team for putting together the wonderful auction.

Presentation of the alumni awards for the College closed the formal evening program. (See the related story on the well-deserving alumni award winners).

OSF Saint Francis Medical Center Catering provided the delicious meal. Music was provided by the Hot Cat's Jazz Ensemble. Interested attendees were able to have a tour of Jump given by Toufic Khairallah (TK) (BSN Class of 2006, MSN Class of 2014). TK is a Clinical Education Scholar specializing in simulation. Photography was done by Barb Lloyd.

## Special Thank You

A special thanks to all who donated items for the auction, which helped make it a huge success. Donors included: Saint Francis Medical Center College of Nursing, OSF Saint Francis Medical Center, Avanti's Ristorante, PHD Services, Red Barn, Weaver Ridge Golf Club, Regal Nails Salon East Peoria, Healing Touch by Stanzia, Jean Holmes, Mary Jo Gebhardt, Mary Jo Paine, Kathy Rosenbohm, Janet Shipley and Cary Vincent.

A special thanks goes to the following people for their help in planning the wonderful event: Patti Stockert – College President, Mary Donnelly – Association President, Paulette Archer – Association Treasurer, Helene Batzek – Alumni Relations, Jan Boundy – Alumni Awards, Jean Visocky Holmes – Basket Auction, Marcella Allen McCann – Class of 1956, Mary Jo Vogel Paine, Joan Kulpa – Class of 1961, Jeanne Klipp Bailey, Lois Walgrave Goudreau, Barb Bontz Ekstrum, Janet Clusky McCaw – Class of 1966, Ivy Demers, Julie Talbert Uribe – Class of 1976, Joanne Bailey Hickey, Rita Western Haedicke, Janice Sniff – Class of 1981.





# CELEBRATING OUR ALUMNI



HOMECOMING 2016

# Alumni Awards



## RUBY CEALEY DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD

*presented to Patricia White*

The Ruby Cealey Distinguished Alumni Award recognizes and honors a nurse alumnus who has represented the School/College well by displaying caring, professionalism, leadership, community service and contributions to the profession in many ways. The 2016 Ruby Cealey Distinguished Alumni Award recipient is

Patricia A. White, Class of 1963 Diploma Program at Saint Francis Hospital School of Nursing.

Patricia White has consistently demonstrated outstanding professional nursing standards, commitment and involvement since graduating from the Diploma Program at Saint Francis Hospital School

of Nursing. She began her career as a nursing instructor at Saint Francis Hospital School of Nursing. She then worked several years in the emergency room at OSF Saint Francis Medical Center. She was one of the first certified trauma nurses and a field supervisor who was also active in evolving the trauma system. For a short time, she practiced at Proctor Hospital Emergency Center but returned "home" to Saint Francis. She soon was asked to become the house-wide nursing supervisor for third shift, a position she held for over 30 years. During those years, she consistently managed any crisis or challenge confronting the nursing staff and patient care. She was known to always say the "patient needs are first."

Patricia is known to consistently uphold the Mission of the Sisters of the Third Order of St. Francis and the standards of nursing. Through all the years she has modeled the values of caring, compassion, and commitment to the best care possible. Examples include the numerous times she secured prescriptions and or assistive devices for patients when they could not pay, but she would somehow find the money. It was all about the patient first. Patricia is an actively involved member of the College of Nursing Alumni Association and their many activities that support the College students.

Patricia has demonstrated community service by teaching at Senior Net in Peoria, where she educates



seniors on computers and often provides 1:1 coaching. She continues to provide a ride to others for health care appointments. She is treasurer for OSF Senior Saints and has strengthened their use of technology. She also continues her long-term membership on the board of directors of a local credit union.

As further evidence of Patricia's dedication to nursing, two of her three daughters chose to follow in her footsteps and are graduate nurses from the BSN program at Saint Francis Medical Center College of Nursing.

## EXCELLENCE IN LEADERSHIP

*presented to Hollie Cheatum-Lucas*

The Outstanding Alumni – Excellence in Leadership Award recognizes and honors a nurse alumnus who has exhibited excellence in nursing leadership. The recipient of the 2016 Outstanding Alumni – Excellence in Leadership is Hollie Cheatum-Lucas, 2001 BSN graduate of Saint Francis Medical Center College of Nursing. Hollie was a leader while in school, serving as a resident assistant her senior year. She was energetic as a student and excited about the contributions she could make as a nurse.

Hollie was identified as a leader early in her nursing career when she was asked to become the manager in pediatrics. She unified the unit and raised the standards of pediatric care. She brought more education to her staff on pediatric specific problems and became coordinator for Methodist Medical Center CPR and Pediatric Advanced Life Support programs. She was instrumental in expanding child-life services.

In 2010, Hollie became lead nurse for the Pekin In-School Health program. She became a strong pillar of support for the nurses and other medical professionals. She has influenced health care by designing processes to improve pediatric medication administration safety in the schools. Hollie developed unity and networking between the nurses and technicians at many Pekin schools. As a leader,





she is dependable, an outstanding role model, flexible and always willing to lend a helping hand. Hollie's leadership was recognized in 2014 when she assumed the manager position of the overall In-School Health program for all seven schools in the Pekin district. Her current role is the most challenging of her career as she manages 25 independent schools in four cities with nine independent contracts, covering a 19-mile wide area with 30 health care workers under her guidance. She manages staffing, teaching, supply chain, billing, vaccine safety, patient recordkeeping, clinic certification and school satisfaction with the services provided. This included four nurse practitioners at certified clinics that offer preventive care, acute illness and chronic illness management. Hollie coordinates the best health care possible for local families and their children working tirelessly to support staff in this unique environment. This remarkable leader manages the flow of hundreds of thousands of dollars in the In-School Health program. Hollie truly demonstrates characteristics that reflect the highest professional nursing standards.

## EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION

*presented to Michael Gallagher*

The Outstanding Alumni – Excellence in Education Award recognizes and honors an alumnus who has exhibited excellence in nursing education and professional development and demonstrates characteristics that reflect the highest professional nursing standards. In addition, this person functions as a mentor and a role model to other professional nurses. The 2016 recipient of the Outstanding Alumni - Excellence in Education Award is Michael Gallagher, who earned his BSN in 1994 and his MSN in 2006 from the College of Nursing.

Michael Gallagher has been involved in teaching for over nine years. He is currently a tenured faculty member at Illinois Central College (ICC) in Peoria, Illinois, teaching in the Associate Degree in Nursing program. He has a unique approach to teaching. His philosophy is to prepare students to succeed as a novice nurse and he helps them learn beyond what is required for passing the national licensure examination. He teaches concepts using anecdotes or examples to create a picture or scenario in the classroom. In the clinical setting, he expects students to be well prepared and provide quality, safe and competent patient care. This helps the adult learner to realize the relevance of their learning to the art and science of nursing. As further evidence of his quality and competent classroom and clinical teaching, Michael was nominated in 2012 by students and received a Faculty Who Make a Difference Award from Illinois Central College. He also progressed from Assistant to Associate Professor in 2015, and in 2016 was elected as the Health Career Department Senator to the ICC Faculty Forum. Michael has officially and unofficially

mentored new faculty members at Illinois Central College. His personal priorities are helping the mentee identify their areas of strength and weakness, and assisting faculty to focus on their specific needs. He draws upon his own experience where he faced challenges as a new faculty member.



Michael is known to be innovative and creative, adept at utilizing technology and online learning in his teaching strategies and often brings humor to the classroom. He has had fellow faculty in the health careers profession, both within and outside of nursing, seek his techniques to use in class and online course design.

When he's not teaching, he is a pilot, an avid photographer and he enjoys camping. We were very sorry that Michael was not able to join us for the evening. His award was given to him at a later date.

## EXCELLENCE IN PRACTICE

*presented to Kelly Schuler*

The Outstanding Alumni – Excellence in Practice Award recognizes and honors a nurse alumnus who is viewed as an excellent nurse by their peers and the public, and has exhibited excellence in nursing practice by demonstrating the skills, attitudes, knowledge, qualities and values of a professional nurse. The recipient of the 2016 Outstanding Alumni – Excellence in Practice is Kelly M. Schuler, a 2009 MSN alumnus from Saint Francis Medical Center College of Nursing.



Kelly graduated with her baccalaureate degree from Elmhurst College in 1982. Following her baccalaureate nursing education, she held different roles in medical-surgical nursing for 25 years, following which she enrolled in a master's program at Saint Francis Medical Center College of Nursing and graduated in 2009.

Kelly has a significant history of excellence in nursing practice for over 33 years. She began her nursing career at OSF Saint Joseph Medical Center in 1983. In addition, she was accepted at Illinois Wesleyan University in a faculty position in the fall of 2009. She has always been found to be an excellent role model as she is highly

*(Alumni Awards continued)*

motivated, cooperative, is a team player and actively supports the Mission of the Sisters of OSF. She is a strong patient advocate, has a great work ethic, and continues to be involved on many committees. She has excellent nursing practice skills.

Kelly has always strived to be the best in whatever area she practiced nursing – intensive care, surgery, interventional radiology, service line leader and manager. She sets high standards for herself and for those who work with her. She is attentive, diligent and knowledgeable. Not only does she practice accountability, she expects it from her entire team. When she leaves one care setting and moves to another, she readily applies her knowledge, skills and expertise. She gives her heart and soul to whatever the job requires.

Kelly is the epitome of caring, knowledge and nursing practice expertise. As a bedside nurse, she is consistently able to develop healing relationships with her patients but also see the bigger picture and apply it to that patient and family. As a nursing leader, she not only continues this but now applies that learning to a broader nursing audience. She is an excellent teacher for her patients, families, staff and her students.

## OUTSTANDING Alumni Awards

Please consider nominating one of your classmates or peers for an Outstanding Alumni Award. Help the School/College recognize the outstanding professional nurses that graduated from the School or College of Nursing.

To nominate someone, please submit a written statement that summarizes the professional practice and accomplishments of the alumnus according to the award criteria (see insert in the Newsletter). We recommend that you talk to the person you are nominating to gather information to include in your nomination.

[The new deadline for nominations is June 1, 2017.](#)  
The Outstanding Alumni Awards are presented at the Homecoming dinner in the fall. The date for next year's event is September 23, 2017.

# School of Nursing Alumnus Wins National Excellence Award

Each year, Nurse.com presents the Giving Excellence Meaning (GEM) Awards. Nurse.com conducts a nationwide search for the best of the best in nursing highlighting stories of nursing excellence in clinical practice, community care, education and mentorship, executive leadership and management.

This year's recipient of the Excellence in Executive Leadership GEM Award was Kimberly Pearson, MHA, MBA, RN, CCHP. Kimberly Martin Pearson is a 1984 graduate of the School of Nursing. Kimberly currently serves as the Deputy Agency Director, Correctional Health Services for the County of Orange, Health Care Agency in Santa Ana, California.

Pearson was honored to be nominated by her staff for the GEM Award. In her nomination, the staff wrote that Pearson brought more than 300 people together to work toward a common goal and is admired for helping to create a professional and compassionate team whose members demonstrate innovation, excellence and a passion for patient care and professional advancement.

Pearson attributes her quest for excellence to her dedicated nursing school professors, committed mentors and preceptors, and professional managers, as well as her own internal drive to make a difference. "Some pursue nursing to make a difference in the lives of patients; however, I have learned that nursing management and administration offer the same opportunities," she said. "It is amazing for me to watch people seeking to be part of a successful and strong team, and striving for excellence reaps invaluable benefits for everyone."

Pearson reminds her staff members that they each have an important role and function within the team, and they are all individually necessary to complete the mission. "No one is more important than anyone else," she said. "I will always feel this way. So the national win is for our whole team. I am so proud of the work they do within a challenging jail environment and for their continuous commitment to integrity and excellence. I am simply thrilled to be part of their team."

Congratulations Kimberly Martin Pearson on your award and demonstrating "The Tradition of Excellence in Nursing Education" that the School and College have strived towards. We are proud of you!

*(Excerpted from Nurse.com at <https://www.nurse.com/blog/2016/12/16/5-remarkable-nurses-win-the-coveted-national-gem-award>)*



# COLLEGE MERCHANDISE



To order contact Helene Batzek at (309) 624-9933, [helene.c.batzek@osfhealthcare.org](mailto:helene.c.batzek@osfhealthcare.org) or send checks payable to the Alumni Association, to Helene Batzek at 511 NE Greenleaf St., Peoria, IL 61603

## Keep Sending Us Your Thoughts and Ideas

The College continues to read your communications and it is our goal to serve you as best we can. If you have any input to what you would like to see the College and Alumni Association do, [please contact Helene:](#)

[helene.c.batzek@osfhealthcare.org](mailto:helene.c.batzek@osfhealthcare.org)  
(309) 624-9933

## We'd like to hear from you!

Is there any professional or personal news you'd like to share with your colleagues? New job? Promotion? Advanced certification? Honors or awards? Professional activities? Marriage? New baby? Move? What would you like to see included in Notes from Greenleaf? Send us the details.

Last Name		First	Surname	
Home Address			Telephone	
City		State	Zip Code	
Occupation		E-mail	Yr. Graduated	
SFMCCON/SFHSON Degree(s)			Year(s) Received	
Other Degree(s)		Year(s) Received	Institution	Major

For further information contact Helene Batzek, Alumni Relations Representative.  
Phone: (309) 624-9933 E-mail: [helene.c.batzek@osfhealthcare.org](mailto:helene.c.batzek@osfhealthcare.org)

Please help keep our alumni files current by sending us your e-mail address and phone number.

## Interested in Joining the Alumni Association?

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Surname: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Please respond to Paulette Archer '70 at (309) 655-4132, [paulette.m.archer@osfhealthcare.org](mailto:paulette.m.archer@osfhealthcare.org), or mail your \$10 membership fee (\$250 for Lifetime Membership) to: **511 NE Greenleaf St., Peoria, Illinois 61603.**

Make checks payable to:  
**SFMCCON Alumni Association**

## 2017 Calendar of Events

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### **Alumni Association Dinner Meeting**

March 23, 5:30 p.m. • Lariat Steakhouse, Peoria

### **Commencement**

May 20, 9 a.m. • Peoria Civic Center

### **Alumni Association Dinner Meeting**

May 25, 5:30 p.m. • Sugar Wood-Fired Bistro, Peoria

### **Alumni Evening at the Vineyard**

June 2, 5 p.m. • Kickapoo Creek Winery

### **Alumni Association Dinner Meeting**

August 17, 5:30 p.m. • Avanti's North, Peoria

### **Homecoming 2017**

September 23 • 11 a.m. Brunch, 6 p.m. Dinner

*No meetings in February, April, June and July. All alumni are invited to the Alumni Association Dinner Meetings whether a member or not. Alumni Association meeting follows dinner.*