President’s Message

Dear Alumni Friends:

As I enter my second year as your alumni president, I am happy to report on a number of exciting changes happening at the college. In January, the board elected new officers President Elect Becci Hansen ’14, Vice President Megan Golab ’15, and board members Bev Deaton ’63 and Charlotte Bivens ’80. The new members join existing secretary Robert Morse ’86, Sharon (Dempsey) Mast ’77, Sarah (Arnold) Malcolm ’04 and nominating chair, Kristina (McCarthy) Maurer ’88. Some of you may recognize my name as I served as the alumni president from 2008-2010. I am honored to have the opportunity to give back to an organization that has such a rich history of supporting our community, alumni and nursing.

In 2010, the alumni board began nominating a distinguished alumni and have honored eight deserving alumni since. Selection is based on exceptional professional accomplishments, including contributions to nursing, community/public service, academic achievement and professional publications. We are looking for alumni who exemplify the qualities of St. John’s College: innovation, leadership, competence, life-long learning, justice, mutual respect, stewardship and wholism inclusive of caring, joy and spiritual growth. 2017 also was the first year we began recognizing a distinguished young alumni. The Young Alumni Award recognizes noteworthy and distinctive achievements made by alumni who have graduated from St. John’s College of Nursing within the past 10 years. We encourage you to visit sjcs.edu/alumni to nominate someone deserving.

As many of you who are advanced practice nurses are aware, legislation changed in Illinois allowing more autonomy and removing practice barriers. Experts agree, in a 2016 IOM report, the ability of registered nurses (RNs) to practice to the fullest extent of their education and scope has not yet been achieved in most healthcare setting. Identified key roles of RNs include:

- RN as professional: Ensuring the highest possible patient outcomes, preparation of RNs at the BSN level is essential;
- RN as advocate: Challenging nurses to engage in measuring the effectiveness of nursing care and articulating the value they add to patient care;
- RN as innovator: Leading innovation and encouraging nurse managers and nurse leaders to create environments where innovation can thrive; and
- RN as collaborative leader: Advancing nurse-led initiatives in culturally competent care; describing recommendations to create and foster interprofessional environments; and highlighting evidence-based programs to support RN transition-to-practice environments.

Continued on page 2.
As alumni, you hold an important role in the future of nursing practice. I encourage you to be the guiding force so that your healthcare delivery team will be fueled by mutual respect and an improved sense of interdisciplinary collaboration, and you will feel a high level of job satisfaction that can translate to improved care of the patient at the bedside.

Many of you were among the 100 alumni, faculty and friends who gathered at the Northfield Inn on October 7 for a dinner celebrating the 98th anniversary of the St. John’s Hospital School of Nursing and St. John’s College, representing nearly 10 decades of nursing excellence. The event recognized the 50-, 25- and 10-year class reunions and a myriad of other graduates who came to reminisce about old times with dear friends and colleagues. This anniversary celebration was a wonderful event to share! Please consider attending this year’s social event. Mark your calendars for Saturday, October 6.

I hope you enjoy this issue of the ECHO newsletter. I encourage you to become a more active member in our Association – reconnect with your past, see its relevance to your present and future. Join us! You are always welcome to attend our alumni meetings. Please contact the college for dates and times.

With warm regards,
Jean M. Becker, RN, BSN, MPH, ’96

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THE 2ND ANNUAL Scrubs Run

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 1
9 A.M. • WASHINGTON PARK
Chancellor’s Message

Greetings alumni!

I am sure you are more than ready for spring. I know I am. Fresh updates from the college should help as we look forward to all things anew with the change in seasons. I am excited to share the news of our 91 percent NCLEX pass rate for 2017! Much credit is due to our faculty and our enhanced pathway to success program. Assistant professor Cheryl Huffman leads this program with her expertise in evaluative learning barriers for students and effective methods to overcome those barriers. We also have completed a lengthy project for accommodating student needs during testing, additional study group space and an enhanced learning area for our students. All these resources are in one large, multipurpose classroom. This was made possible with the creativity of our professional staff and faculty and funding from capital reserves and our alumni foundation. Thank you very much!

We also are happy to report we are seeing more interest in all our nursing programs at St. John’s College. A new articulation agreement with Kaskaskia Community College will allow for greater enrollment and a smoother, less cumbersome transition for nurses with an associate degree to continue on to receive their bachelor of science in nursing. We also have a robust recruitment plan for all of our programs, which has resulted in an increase of traditional program applicants as well. More and more students with a bachelor’s of science are interested in finishing their educational endeavors here at St. John’s by entering our accelerated cohort to pursue their RN. The Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP) has become a very popular cohort, as well, and we will see our largest enrollment for this program in the fall. Last but certainly not least, we are making plans to offer the Doctorate of Nursing Practice (DNP) degree at St. John’s College! It is exciting to see the growth of the college which offers many options for the professional growth of our students as well as scholarly opportunities for our faculty.

We have noticed that many of our applicants say they heard about our college from our alumni. Thank you very much! I am pleased to announce we are pursuing the addition of an alumni coordinator position on a part-time basis. The role will aid in assisting with alumni relations, development endeavors and oversight of the St. John’s School/College archives. I would like to see an alum fill this role. Stay tuned!

The faculty are reaching out into the community with their research interests and bringing our students along for the experience. More community members are being impacted due to the care and education provided by our expert faculty to allow for better decision making, better use of resources and improved healthcare outcomes. Healthcare is changing and SJC is right in step with the changes. Several initiatives such as hotspotting, Teddy bear health fairs, faith community nursing and the self-management of diabetes, are just a few of the education, practice and research programs currently making a difference in the Springfield community. This is timely as we prepare to offer the DNP program.

And finally, with spring around the corner, we are making plans to upgrade our courtyard garden. In fall 2016, we unexpectedly lost one of our accelerated students, Jill Buffington. One way to carry on Jill’s memory is to beautify a section of our courtyard into a tranquil place for students to gather. Our students can use the space to relax, have fellowship over lunch and pray. As weather permits this spring students, faculty, staff and Jill’s parents will come together to plant flowers and shrubs to enhance the tranquil space. Jill’s parents will donate a picture of Jill and artistic sculptures for the garden. New picnic tables are needed for the garden to compliment the new umbrellas with stands donated by our last accelerated class for “Jill’s Garden.” This project is a labor of love for Jill, her family, current and future nursing students. Donations toward Jill’s Garden are welcome.

Peace,

Charlene S. Aaron PhD, RN
Chancellor

"We have noticed that many of our applicants say they heard about our college from our alumni. Thank you very much!"
Minutes of Annual Meeting
October 7, 2017

The annual meeting and reunion of St. John’s Nursing Alumni Association was held at the Northfield Inn Suites and Conference Center, Springfield, Ill., on October 7, 2017. The 50-year and 25-year graduates were honored with special corsages. The Alumni Association hosted the 50-year class participants. Special guests included Board Chair Aggie Hayner and the class agents. Beverly Deaton (‘63) offered the opening and closing invocations.

Following a cocktail hour and dinner of chicken breast with basil cream sauce, red skin garlic mashers, buttered broccoli spears, apple, cherry or peach pie, tossed salad, rolls and butter, coffee and iced tea, Alumni Nominating Chair Kristina Maurer (‘88) welcomed everyone and introduced the guests and officers present. Board member Charlotte Bivens introduced honored classes and Bev Deaton introduced the 2017 Distinguished Alumni Lauretta (Metzger) Hildebrand, class of 1952, and congratulated her for her service to others.

Board member Becci Hanson introduced the 2017 Young Alumni Nicole Henderson, class of 2015, and congratulated her on her accomplishments. Dr. Aaron then addressed the alumni and gave a very informative presentation that illustrated the changes at the college and in nursing education. Kris announced the minutes of last year’s meeting were published in the ECHO. A trivia game of college history was played. Guests were given a gift of an umbrella with the college logo.

The class agents were again invited to a special pre-celebration immediately before the banquet. Bev Neisler from the HSHS Foundation thanked banquet attendees for their generosity and encouraged them to give when called upon in the future.

Representatives from the classes of 1967 and 1992 were asked to introduce fellow classmates from their class. Classes were given the opportunity for group photos immediately following the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Robert Morse (‘86), secretary
99th Annual Alumni Banquet

Date: Saturday, October 6, 2018
Place: Northfield Inn
Suites & Conference Center
3280 Northfield Drive
Springfield, Illinois 62707
Agenda: 5:30 p.m.: Cash bar
7 p.m.: Dinner and annual meeting
Music by: Ed Clark

Hotel reservations: A block of rooms has been reserved at the Northfield Inn at a discount rate of $88 per night (Friday and Saturday, Oct. 5-6). Be sure to mention that you are with St. John’s Alumni Association when making a reservation. Call the Northfield Inn at (217) 523-7900.

Hotel registration deadline: September 21, 2018
Make checks payable to: St. John’s Nursing Alumni Association

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL (217) 525-5628.

Our newest members of the December 2017 class are especially welcome!

Fill out and mail the slip below or register and pay online in the alumni section at sjcs.edu.

MAIL-IN RESERVATION SLIP

Please make a reservation for me to attend the St. John’s Nursing Alumni Banquet on October 6, 2018. The reservation deadline is October 1, 2018. Enclosed is my $35 per person reservation. Mail check and reservation slip to: St. John’s College, Dept. of Nursing, 729 E. Carpenter St., Springfield, IL 62702.

Name:__________________________________________________________________________________
Address:________________________________________________________________________________
City:_________________________State:_____________________ZIP:__________________________
Phone:_________________________Email:__________________________Class of:_______________

Reminder: The 50-year alumni class members and Hospital Sisters Alumni are honored guests of the Alumni Association and are requested to make their reservation, without payment.
Class of 1968

Detach and mail reservation to:

St. John’s College Dept. of Nursing
729 E. Carpenter Street
Springfield, IL 62702
Nicole Henderson, class of 2015, was St. John’s College’s (SJC) first Young Alumni Award recipient in 2017. The young alumni award was created to honor alum that have graduated within the past 10 years and have achieved notable success and accomplishments following their time at SJC. Nicole has well beyond earned this award as she continues to represent the core values of the college in her career.

During her time at St. John’s College, Nicole served as student government president and was a very inspiring leader and advocate for helping others. She assisted with a cold-winter wear drive to help the less fortunate in the Springfield community, and also organized an all-school potluck to bring new and continuing students and staff together. Nicole spent hours helping her classmates make baby blankets for the St. John’s Children’s Hospital.

One of Nicole’s greatest and most notable achievements would be her efforts for the Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure. She currently serves as co-chair and her dedication to support other women who are or who have been affected by breast cancer is one of her greatest advocacies.

Since graduating, Nicole has received the Outstanding Youth in Philanthropy award by the Central Illinois Chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals. She has also helped raise scholarship money for the Tiffany Leigh Brown Memorial Scholarship Fund by assisting with a memorial golf outing. Nicole is also a strong advocate for the Gift of Hope organ donation.

Nicole continues to embody the mission and core values of St. John’s College of Nursing. She is extremely competent in her role as a caregiver and a nurse. She is quick and thorough when it comes to problem solving, and knows to ask for help when it is needed. Nicole treats every person she comes in contact with in her professional and personal life as if they are the most important person to her at that point in time. Her positivity and willingness to help others leaves an impact on all she encounters.

Nicole’s next endeavor involves a transition to Colorado Springs, where she has taken a job in the ICU. Join us in congratulating Nicole on her past and current accomplishments as we cannot wait to see how she continues to serve others and live out our mission.
Department of Continuing Education Update

This year’s reporting has had a few changes in how educational activities are reported. The American Nursing Credentialing Center (ANCC) requires all programs to be entered electronically and downloaded into the Nursing Activity Reporting System (NARS) data base. With variation across the country in how accredited provider units report their activities, this will provide consistency in the process. The biggest difference was counting all repeated programs as an individual program. This appears to greatly exaggerate the number of programs offered compared to previous years however, it does give credit to the additional work that goes into presenting a program multiple times.

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All programs continue to be primarily live in-seat programs. Our future goal continues to be providing educational programs which will reach a greater number of nurses both within and outside of HSHS in various formats; in-seat, webinar and/or recorded asynchronous learning.

In order to reach this goal the Department of CE continues to pursue use of more advanced technology in providing continuing education to support growth for the department. The intended outcome is for nurses to access learning to achieve their professional goals when and where it is convenient utilizing their own PC or mobile devices. At this time the Department of CE, along with the college of nursing, is reviewing two possible Learning Management Systems that will meet our needs and be operational by the end of this calendar year. We continue to move forward to bring the Department of CE into the 21st Century in providing educational opportunities.

Mary Jo Brown, MS, RN
Director of Continuing Education

2018 Spring Foundation in Faith Community Nursing

Begins April 9.

This course is nondenominational and open to all RNs interested in promoting a wholistic support of healing, combining health and spiritual support to those in their faith community. The Department of CE is implementing a hybrid format for this course. There are two full-day in-seat classes at the College of Nursing which are the first and last day of the class with four Wednesday evening classes presented remotely.

Feel free to contact Ann Randol, course coordinator, at 217-814-8532 if you have questions, or visit sjcs.edu/Continuing-Education for more detail.

For a list of upcoming educational activities please go to sjcs.edu/Continuing-Education.
The Fruits of Giving

Tim Marten, financial aid administrator

If one only uses the scholarship data from the 2017-2018 academic year as the measure of our scholarship program's success, they would be missing the real value of investing in St. John's College nursing students. The College of Nursing awarded $131,250 in general college scholarships to 79 students and another $80,500 in endowed scholarships to 50 students. This shows a very real and timely financial investment in the success of our students. However, it is what that investment allows our students to do within and outside of the classroom that really shows the importance and impact of scholarship gifts to the College of Nursing.

Students who show a wide range of financial need and academic success receive scholarships from the college. They use these funds to help pay for the rising cost of tuition and personal expenses like books and materials. While this is the direct use of the funds, the student’s ability to work less and study more impacts their academic success in our programs. For example, a student receiving a $2,100 scholarship for the 2017-2018 academic year could work almost 200 hours less during that time. Over the course of 32 weeks, this scholarship allows them to study an additional six hours per week. As any of our faculty, current students and fellow alumni would tell you, nursing school is very rigorous and the extra study time is an important dividend for scholarship recipients.

Scholarship recipients are also aware of the responsibility associated with receiving a scholarship. Not only do our scholarship recipients write thank you notes to their donors, but they also reflect the servant nature inherent to our mission. Most of our scholarship recipients try to pay forward the benefits they receive as a scholarship recipient by volunteering and serving our communities. For example, our students recently completed a successful clothing drive that took a significant amount of time to advertise, collect clothing, and deliver the donations to local shelters. The extra time allotted to students outside of work by scholarship resources allowed this to happen.

The long term benefits of our scholarship program results in alumni with a lifelong commitment to the college. Our recent graduates go on to fulfill vital roles within the healthcare system and their success correlates back to their experience and high-quality education at the college. In addition, these alumni remember that they benefitted from another’s generosity and become donors to our scholarship program as well. This circle of giving and receiving goes beyond a financial value and reflects our core values as a Franciscan institution of education.

Finally, as one who sees the daily impact of donor generosity, I wish to add my sincere gratitude for your support of our scholarship programs. It is one of the highlights of my position to notify students that they receive scholarship funds and to watch how that removes stress and allows them to flourish as students. I hope that by reading this article you understand how the fruit of your gifts multiplies and continues to be vital to our success long past a financial gift. If you wish to become a donor or add to a previous gift, please contact our friends at the St. John’s Foundation at 217-757-6555 or you can give online at https://giving.hshs.org/sjs/Donate. Thank you again for your investment in our students’ future.
Thank you to our generous donors from July 1, 2017 to January 31, 2018! Because of you, we have granted more than $100,000 in scholarships for the fall semester and provided funding for faculty to attend training in new techniques and technology.

**Memorial Donations:**
Lindy Baker
Alice Shea Beynon
Jill Buffington
Lena M. Fye
Lea A Green
Amy Hayner Kates
Shirley Kleinlein
Marjorie Klinkos
Patricia J Krayport
Darlene C. Maddox
Sister Helen Marie
Donna J Myers
Rosemary Weis Schniterator
Mary Frances "Trudy" Schwartz
Jenna Martin Seelbach
Kathleen Van Leer
Flora Van Meer
Mary Therese "KT" Vann
Theresa Vann
Joyce Johnson Waud

**Foundation Donations:**
Dr. Charlotte A. Aaron and Mrs. Brian D.Aaron
Mr. and Mrs. Millard E. Adams
Dr. Charlene S. Aaron and Mr. Brian D. Aaron
Olive Auterman Graham
Carol Murphy Graham
Marilyn Little Goldasich
Lucille Gillis
Cheryl Schniers Gilkerson
Peter Garvey
Kathleen Kain Garst
Paul C. Gaier
Margaret Gaffigan
Sally Fritz
Maureen L. Garcia
Maureen L. Gruss
Carlotta Garvey
Patricia Dalsin Giacomini
David and Karen Gibson
Cheryl Schniers Gilkerson
Lucille Gillis
Margaret L. Hobbs Gladston
Marlyn Little Goldach
Mary Ann Corty Goeden
Carol Graham
Carol Murphy Graham
Oliver Axtman Graham

**Thank you!**
Alice Shea Beynon Scholarship

Alice Shea Beynon graduated from St. John’s School of Nursing in 1946 and completed her postgraduate work at the Margaret Hagge Maternity Hospital in Jersey City, NJ. She began her career as a Registered Nurse in the Labor and Delivery unit at St. John’s Hospital shortly after graduation. She became the supervisor of that unit and held that position until her retirement in October of 1980.

Mrs. Beynon established this scholarship in 1982 to recognize those students who held the desire to establish their nursing careers in the Maternal Child Nursing field. Since her death in 1989, the scholarship is awarded in her memory.

The following December 2017 graduates were selected based on criteria established by the donor.

- **Mallory Beck**
- **Karli Gary**
- **Christopher Geldernick**
- **Stephanie Higgonson**
- **Abby Maurer**
- **Kaitlyn Nelson**
- **Makenzie Shull**

Gertie Egan Community Service Award

The “Gertie Egan” award was created to honor an exceptional woman who exemplified the spirit of service. Gertie (Anhalt) Egan worked more than 40 years as an RN, the last several at St. John’s Hospice. She was active in her church, community and alma mater, St. John’s School of Nursing, from which she graduated in 1947. Mrs. Egan died in 1994. Each year The Gertie Egan Community Service Award is presented to a student who demonstrates the highest merit of community service while supporting the St. John’s College mission and philosophy.

December 2017 recipient: **Christopher Geldernick**
Critical Thinking:
Skills for the New Millennium

Presentation by Faith Bresnan Roberts.
Q&A session to follow.

Thursday, April 19, 2018 | 5 - 7 p.m.
Social hour, appetizers and vendor exhibits | 4 - 5 p.m.
Dove Conference Center
Prairie Heart Institute at HSHS St. John’s Hospital
619 E. Mason Street | Springfield, IL 62701

Open to the public. | Donations appreciated.*
CE will be awarded for this event.

*Donations to benefit St. John’s College alumni scholarship.

For more information, go to sjcs.edu or call (217) 525-5628.

FAITH BRESNAN ROBERTS

Faith is the executive director of magnet, professional practice and parish nursing for Carle Foundation Hospital and Carle Physician Group in Urbana, Ill. She has been a nurse for 42 years and speaks across the U.S. and Canada on topics close to every nurse’s heart.

Faith is a co-author of the AACN core curriculum of sub-acute care and also has published on the socialization of nurses into the profession, generations in the workplace, communication and collaboration, process dynamics, spirituality, parish nursing, prayer and presence.

She has given more than 3,300 presentations on the state, national and international level.
Interprofessional Student Hotspotting

Gloria Brummer, DNP, RN, CNE, associate professor

St. John’s College is embarking on the third collaborative year with SIU School of Medicine in interprofessional student hotspotting. This year, SIU is one of only four hubs in the nation for the six-month collaborative learning program designed by Dr. Jeffrey Brenner and colleagues. Education and support from the hub helps teams as they work with patients to learn and overcome some of the root causes of high health care utilization. Schools including Emory, University of Michigan, University of Chicago and the Uniformed Services, along with six internal SIU teams, are implementing this collaborative. Students from six different professions, including nursing at St. John’s College, work with individuals who have complex medical and social needs using a patient-centered approach. Other professions include medicine, pharmacy, business and management, social work and applied health science.

Over the past two years, St. John’s College faculty have joined others to educate over 20 healthcare learners to apply a patient-centered approach to individuals with complex medical and social needs. During this time, outcomes such as decreased hospitalizations, costs savings, and most importantly improved health for 12 patients in the Springfield area have resulted. The Springfield community and its healthcare systems have become an innovative learning environment for future leaders to help individuals with complex needs improve their health.

St. John’s College holds first Teddy Bear Health Fair

St. John’s College of Nursing students partnered with the Early Learning Center to host their first pilot of the Teddy Bear Health Fair program. On the evening of November 9, children and their families returned to school with their favorite Teddy companions to learn about healthy habits, daily lifestyle activities to promote safety and wellness, socialization in health care settings, practices and equipment.

A variety of stations were set up for children and families to interact with students. Germs, exercise, oral hygiene, household dangers, vital signs and injection administration are some examples of the station themes. Overall, there were 10 stations, including complimentary teddy bears and adoption certificates for children who did not bring a bear or wished to care for another.

“The night went very well … both nursing students and preschoolers remained engaged during the entire event,” said Cindy Ackley, assistant professor at St. John’s College and lead on the Teddy Bear Health Fair initiative. “One child in particular was at the event from beginning to end … and even made their parents bring teddy bears too,” said Ackley.

A total of 43 children and 45 adults joined us for the first Teddy Bear Health Fair. 37 students developed the different stations as their teaching-learning project for the Diverse Populations II course.

St. John’s College Chancellor Dr. Charlene Aaron said, “The Teddy Bear clinic was a success in promoting healthy behaviors in the pre-school children. The children and parents enjoyed the interactive learning stations, as the activities gave parents creative ways to continue these health promotion behaviors at home. I’m very proud of Cindy Ackley’s vision of the learning activity and her collaborative efforts to benefit the community’s youth through nursing education.”

St. John’s College hopes to continue the Teddy Bear Health Fair and expand the program to educate the community on these practices.
Inaugural Scrubs RuN 5K held September 9

What started as a dream amongst students soon turned reality as St. John’s College hosted its first ever Scrubs RuN 5k on Saturday, September 9 at the beautiful Southwind Park.

Nearly 250 people registered for this event, and more than $6,000 was raised for nursing scholarships. The students came up with the plan to split the funds and were able to provide six current students with $500 and reserve the remaining $3,000 for the future goal of an endowed scholarship.

Pictured at right are our overall male and female first place winners, who happen to be some of the newest SJC alumni!

The second annual Scrubs RuN 5K is planned for Saturday, September 1, 2018, at 9 a.m. This year’s run will be held at Washington Park in Springfield.
The St. John’s College of Nursing simulation center will be celebrating two years of operation this June. This beautiful facility is a great advancement from the corner of a small classroom at the Carpenter Street location, where simulations originated in the year 2011. Faculty ran only 10 simulations with undergraduate nursing students the first year. In the year 2018, the simulation center is on target to run between 400 and 500 simulations.

One advantage of the center is the ability for faculty, nurse educators and other HSHS staff to utilize classroom and teleconference space, as well as digital capabilities. Individuals have the means to present lecture material and shift directly into simulations to emphasize key concepts. Recordings can be made of encounters in order to debrief participants. Discussions following simulations include: how the participant felt about how the scenario unfolded, what participants thought they did well, and what they can do to improve future performance. Significant topics can be discussed aiding participants in correlating crucial clinical components such as assessment findings, pathophysiology, labs, diagnostic tests, and medications. Furthermore, dialog can take place regarding when and how to call for assistance; for example, how to effectively communicate needs to the charge nurse, rapid response team, or physician.

The implementation of the Family Nurse Practitioner program has made it necessary for the college to implement a standardized patient program. A standardized patient is a person who is trained to portray the role of a patient, family member, or other individual in a consistent and reliable manner. These patients are taught how to simulate a set of symptoms or problems, which allows students to practice physical exam, history taking, and communication skills.

The simulation center is looking for alumni or volunteers who may serve in this capacity. Please contact the college if you may be interested in this opportunity!
Class of December 2017

St. John’s College of Nursing
Bachelor of Science in Nursing
December 2017

Name: Mallory Beck, Karen Clark, Fadra Coates, Karli Gary, Christopher Geldernick, Stephanie Higgerson, Lydia Hocker, Abby Maurer, Brian Mullner, Kaitlyn Nelson, Darci Primm, Victoria Quarton, Makenzie Shull, Sam Vaninger, Zachary Yoggerst

Hometown: Springfield, IL, Chatham, IL, Decatur, IL, Pawnee, IL, Aurora, IL, Springfield, IL, Springfield, IL, Lakewood, CO, Beecher, IL, Lincoln, IL, Athens, IL, Litchfield, IL, Cantrall, IL, Springfield, IL, Riverton, IL
Student Success Story

Karen Clark
Class of 2017, accelerated program

Tell us about yourself:
“I have always been fascinated by science and the human body. I am amazed at how much can go wrong, but also how resilient we are. I guess you would call me a ‘professional student’ — this is my fourth degree.”

Why did you choose St. John’s College (SJC)?:
“After spending nearly 20 years in education, I decided to follow my dream of becoming a nurse. SJC has a wonderful reputation, is close by and offered a program that fit my lifestyle.”

What was your favorite class?:
“Med Surg II. During this class and clinical, things just started to come together. In Med Surg II clinical, I finally started to feel like a nurse. My classroom and clinical instructor also challenged me, which I really appreciated.”

What was your favorite memory?:
“I met the absolutely best group of classmates I could ask for! We made wonderful memories no matter what we were doing, whether it was studying, going out together or just hanging out. Graduation was the highlight, though!”

Do you have any advice for future SJC students?:
“This journey is difficult. Take it one day at a time, but realize it will go so quickly. Take every opportunity to learn! Pay attention in class and during clinical. And remember, this is not a competition with your classmates — help each other out by sharing study materials and what works for you!”

Is there anything you’d like to add?:
“Feel free to use my 15, 172 Quizlet flashcards!”

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Carry on the Tradition

Do you know someone interested in nursing?

You can help recruit the next generation of nurses! As a graduate of St. John’s College of Nursing, you are one of our greatest recruiting resources! We believe that the personal contact with alumni is more influential than any catalog, picture or brochure. As alumni, you can offer real and tangible testimonials that impact a prospective student decision to inquire, apply and enroll.

St. John’s College of Nursing is proud to offer the following:
- Bachelor of Science in Nursing
- RN-BSN program (online)
- Family Nurse Practitioner MSN (hybrid)
- Nurse Administration and Leadership MSN (online)

If you know someone interested in attending St. John’s College of Nursing, you can have them contact our admissions team at admissions@sjcs.edu or by phone at 217-525-5628.
May 2018 Graduation

Baccalaureate mass and commencement exercises will be held at Christ the King Parish in Springfield, Illinois, on May 11, 2018.

Expected graduates:

RN-BSN
Ashley Davis
Katie DeBroux
Lisa Dixon
Sharon Elmore
Christina Frailey
Stacy Frank
Erin Oshefsky
Laura Stuart

General graduates:
Arianna Anderson
Annamarie Antonacci
Randi Ballard
Corey Boosinger
Allison Clavin
Emily Ebken
Emily Fleigle
Anna Habling
Brittany Hays
Abby Lipcaman
Kara Pattie
Danielle Quinn
Katelyn Ruholl
Ashley Skinner
Michael Steiner
Ann Sullivan
Kristen Wheeler
Abigail Burgener
Hannah Collier
Bradley Dinsmore
Jessica Elsila
Lindsey Fleming
Blake Garrison
Rachel Gennicks
Ashley Gleason
Katelin Hadley
Taylor Jenkins
Amanda Killam
Alayna Kolb
Amanda Nolen
Jennifer Perry
Olivia Primm
Kassy Tibbs
Alyssa Travis
Harley Warren
Bailey Young

2018 Sisters’ Jubilee Information

75 Years Professed
Jeweled Crown Jubilee
Sister Jocelyn Serwatka

70 Years Professed
Grace Jubilee
Sister Anna Clara Rick
Sister Joseph Wu
Sister Marie Chang
Sister Chaminade Kelley
Sister Leonardine Sconzert
Sister Viola Swoboda

50 Years Professed
Golden Jubilee
Sister Maureen O’Connor
Sister Sherrey Murphy
Alumni News

Camilla (Clough) Rose ('58) “I am still volunteering at St. Joseph’s Hospital in Murphysboro, IL. I am looking forward to my first great-grandchild! Hello to all the ’58 class and Barb, Carol, Diane, Judy, Pat, Marie, Theresa - ‘Happy 80th!'”

Margaret (Hardiek) Utz ('61) “I enjoy keeping in touch with classmates via email and Facebook. I was so sad to hear that our class lost Pat Kreppert. I am lucky to be able to travel. I was in Costa Rica in July and plan to go to Puerto Vallarta in December. I also went to SantaFe in October and love to hike in the Colorado Mountains, especially in Crested Butte. God bless all of our classmates, instructors and our school!”

Sharon Sandidge ('67) “Thank you to everyone who helped make our 50th reunion a memorable event!”

Jean (Deimel) Todd ('68) “I retired from St. John’s ICU in 2012, and we relocated to Carbondale. I enjoy keeping up with classmates on Facebook. Looking forward to seeing everyone at our 50th reunion in 2018.”

Pat (Maher) Kmett ('70) “I retired in May 2015 from St. John’s NICU after 45 years of service. I loved my job from start to finish. I lost my husband Don one year after my retirement. I now stay busy with kids, grandkids and great-grandson. I volunteer at grandson’s school two days a week and enjoy being with great-grandbaby three days a week. Near and dear to my heart, I ‘cuddle’ in the NICU via St. John’s Samaritan volunteer program.”

Susan (Ackerman) Starkel ('72) “Happily retired and enjoying life.”

John Busciacco ('74) “Greetings former instructors and classmates. Life in Florida is good. Wishing you all the best in 2018. Retirement is good also – can’t believe it’s been 12 years already!”

Michele Granse ('77) “I am still working the evening shift at the Special Care nursery. Not ready to retire - still love what I do. Thank you for the wonderful education St. John’s!”

Elisa Feldmann ('77) “I finished 42 years at HSHS St. Francis Hospital in Litchfield (SFL), all in the maternity department. I am currently the manager of OB. I have three grown children and three grandchildren. Best wishes to all my “74” class.”

Linda Blakley ('82) “I have been at St. John’s College as nursing faculty since January 2007. I am blessed to teach in the maternal/child course. For those who have not had the opportunity to see the new simulation center, it is amazing. Being able to lecture and then follow it with a simulation is great learning for the students. I am currently attending classes online at the University of St. Francis for my DNP. I am halfway through with an anticipated graduation date of May 2019.”

Lorri Oreolt ('96) “I moved to Tampa, Florida and am currently working for Florida Hospital.”

St. John’s College would like to extend a sincere thank you to Ms. Mary L. Catteau, who continues to serve the alumni ECHO even in retirement.

CONDOLENCES to the families of:

Donna (Kottke) Adams ('52) whose mother, Mildred Kottke, passed away March 25, 2017.

Shirley (Bemis) Kleinlein ('70) who passed away September 16, 2017.

Patricia “Pat” Kreppert ('61) who passed away October 27, 2017.

Donna J. Riley ('47) who passed away October 30, 2017.

Donna (Hicks) Myers ('51) who passed away November 30, 2017.

To Lois (Shaughnessy) Jirgal ('54) whose sister Mary Lou Brennan passed away December 3, 2017.

Patricia (Armel) Mahoney ('62) whose husband passed away December 15, 2017.


Marjorie (VanOrmer) Klickna ('41) who passed away December 26, 2017.

Claudia (Fagerholm) Cottrell ('64) who passed away January 2, 2018.

Florence (Stoltz) Seibert ('55) who passed away January 2, 2018.

To the Hospital Sisters of the Third Order of St. Francis on the deaths of:


Sister Mellitene Grunloh, OSF ('47) who passed away August 6, 2017.

Sister Francis Kuo, OSF, who passed away October 24, 2017.

Addendum

St. John’s College would like to make a correction to the fall 2017 issue of the ECHO newsletter and extend their deepest sympathies to:

Joan (Schwaegel) Logsdon ('85) whose daughter, Kayla, passed away March 28, 2017.
We are interested in you!

Please take time to drop us a line about your professional activities, honors, employment or other items of interest.

Please mail to:
St. John’s College
729 E. Carpenter Street
Springfield, IL 62702

Email: information@sjcs.edu

Name ____________________________
Year graduated ______________________
News ______________________________
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Where are you working? ______________________
____________________________________
Email address _______________________

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