

The Truth About Nursing

Paul Krugman recently claimed that nurses perform “menial work dealing with the physical world,” on his *New York Times* blog. The Nobel Prize-winning economist was arguing that technology is less likely to displace such “manual jobs.”

The Truth About Nursing, our non-profit group, explained to Krugman that nursing requires advanced problem-solving abilities and a science-based college education. Awakened, he apologized on his blog. Krugman said he understands the thinking that nursing requires. And he promised not to make that mistake again.

The Truth About Nursing celebrates nurses during National Nurses Week, and every other week, by calling out this kind of disinformation. We help the world understand how nurses save lives and improve patient outcomes. Often, that means a little social disruption.

MTV aired a 10-episode reality show called *Scrubbing In* in 2013 that focused on very personal details in the lives of some attractive young nurses. But we saw almost no nursing skill or knowledge. Tens of thousands of nurses protested. Finally, MTV reached out to The Truth to make a deal. They agreed to air the show at a less prominent time, re-edit some episodes, and accept our help in creating a “Day in the Life of a Nurse” feature for their website, to explain what nurses really do for patients.

In 2005, we persuaded the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to change the name of the minority health campaign it holds every year from “Take a Loved One to the Doctor Day” to “Take a Loved One for a Checkup Day.” We objected to the “Doctor Day” name because it excluded advanced practice registered nurses (nurse practitioners, certified nurse midwives, clinical nurse specialists, and certified registered nurse anesthetists). They play a leading role in addressing the very health disparities that minorities face.

Did we mention the naughty nurse? We’ve persuaded many corporate advertisers and other media creators to stop using sexualized nurse imagery. A few stand out:

In 2010, The Truth launched a major campaign to pressure Columbia University physician Mehmet Oz, host of *The Dr. Oz Show*, to make amends for a weight loss segment in which some “nurses” “got sexy” and danced with him. After we generated global press coverage of the campaign, Oz publicly apologized, professed great respect for nurses, and vowed to do better. As far as we know, he has.

In 2004, psychologist Phil McGraw asserted on his *Dr. Phil* show that the health care system is full of “cute little nurses” who are out to “seduce and marry” physicians “because that’s their ticket out of having to work as a nurse.” After 1,400 of our supporters flooded the show with emails, McGraw issued two on-air statements of support for nursing.

The Truth About Nursing has been doing this for almost two decades. We started out as a group of nurses in graduate school, confronting a growing nursing shortage. We felt the shortage had roots in enduring stereotypes of nurses as expendable handmaidens with little skill or value.

But why should you care about the public image of nurses today?

Because some day, your life and the lives of your loved ones will likely be in the hands of nurses.

Nurses are autonomous problem solvers, many with college degrees. They advocate for patients when the system fails them, or when physicians err and prescribe the wrong medication or treatment. Nurses teach patients how to manage their injuries and illnesses. Nurses do 24/7 patient surveillance, often using advanced technology, to detect subtle cues that can make the difference between life and death. When nurses identify trouble, they make a plan to address it. That plan may involve physicians, but often it does not. Sadly, few people know these key facts about nursing practice.

Instead, physicians get credit for much of the dramatic life-saving work that nurses do, while nurses are portrayed as low-skilled physician helpers. Some people wrongly question the gender identity of men in nursing. And advanced practice registered nurses are presented as cut-rate physician substitutes, even though research shows their care is at least as good as physician care.

Nurses’ supporters may see them as virtuous “angels.” But even that view does nurses a disservice. That’s because it discourages and undermines advocacy for resources and legislative reform that nurses need. “Angels” would never complain about shifts without breaks, inadequate staffing, or mandatory overtime. And these same nurse “angels” would never ask to join decision-making bodies so they can change how nursing care is delivered.

Because nursing practice is undervalued, it is also underfunded. Nurses need money for education, research, and clinical practice, including residencies. They need rest and resources to protect their patients. When nurses don’t get what they need, the result is burnout, shortages, and understaffing. Studies show that results in worse patient outcomes, including unnecessary deaths.

The media plays a key role. Research has proven that the media affects the public’s understanding of health. One study found that nine in 10 regular viewers of a popular television drama learned health information from it. A 2014 study found that the MTV reality show *16 and Pregnant* and its sequels led to increased tweets to find birth control—and a third of the decline in teen births in the U.S. during the next 18 months.

The media also affects the way people think and act toward nursing. A 2015 study found that children’s books featuring nurses relied heavily on the “unskilled handmaidens and angel stereotypes.” A Scottish study found that popular media discouraged elite primary school students from nursing careers by showing nurses as “brainless, sex-mad bimbos” pursuing “romance” with physicians. And an earlier focus group study of 1800 grade school students showed that they received their main impression of nursing from popular TV shows. It was no surprise when they said nursing was technical work “like shop,” not a profession.

But surely the news media provides a



more accurate picture of nursing?

Sometimes it does. For example, a 2011 *New York Daily News* report described an emergency nurse who said she tried to get her colleagues to treat a homeless man who was later found dead outside her hospital. She said she was then fired for trying to expose what happened.

But reporting like that remains too rare. One recent study on nurses in the news was “The Woodhull Study Revisited: Nurses’ Representation in Health News Media 2018.” The researchers also compared their findings to a landmark 1997 study on that same topic.

Sadly, not much has changed in 20 years. Nurses remain almost invisible in the news media. In fact, “Woodhull Revisited” found that nurses were used as expert sources in only 2% of health articles in 2017. That was actually a decrease from the 4% found in 1997. The difference is not statistically significant, but the trajectory is revealing.

The Woodhull researchers also spoke with health journalists. They found reporters generally don’t understand what nurses do, or even how to find them. When journalists ask to interview nurses, hospital public relations staff often give them physicians instead. When journalists do get nurses as sources, editors ask why the reporter couldn’t find a physician.

Hollywood has also been resistant to change. There have been a few bright spots for nursing, like the BBC’s *Call the Midwife*, which shows competent, autonomous nurses saving lives. But major hits like ABC’s *Grey’s Anatomy* and *The Good Doctor*, among many others, present fantasy visions of hospitals in which physicians do everything that matters. Nurses are meek servants, chirping

“Yes, doctor!” when they appear at all.

Given all this, how can you celebrate nursing every day?

Nurses must take the lead, but non-nurses can help build public understanding. Please pay close attention when interacting with nurses in the clinical setting. Did your nurse embody stereotypes by acting merely as a caring “angel” or a silent flunky? Or did that nurse save a life by detecting a subtle change in status, or speed recovery by educating a patient about a symptom, condition or treatment?

Even the language we use matters. For instance, nurses do not follow “orders,” so we should not use that term for interventions such as prescriptions. Nurses have a duty to examine care plans and challenge any that are a danger to patients. In addition, hospitals are more “nursing centers” than “medical centers,” since patients wouldn’t be admitted unless they needed 24/7 nursing care.

For nurses, changing the media landscape may seem daunting. But as we have shown, it can be changed. Even the most powerful and resistant media creators can be affected, over time.

Consider the first major project we ever undertook, improving the popular NBC show *ER*. In 2001, we had a long conference call with a show producer and medical advisor. We were not satisfied with the results, so we kept at it, sending the show our analyses of episodes and running campaigns to urge better portrayals. Despite the *ER* producers’ resistance, some later episodes did seem to reflect our influence. Several 2005 episodes included a formidable, doctoral-prepared

continued on page 8

National Nurses Week

ADVERTISING SUPPLEMENT

The Truth About Nursing

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nurse character. That same year, we asked the show's sponsors to help us. Schering-Plough responded by asking the show to develop "stories that highlight accurate roles, responsibilities, skills and contributions of today's modern nursing profession." When *ER* ended in 2009, it still had only one major nurse character. But that character had started graduate school to become a nurse anesthetist. (Her nurse predecessors had both wanted to become physicians, and one did.) And that last nurse displayed clinical expertise that surprised some physician characters—and maybe some viewers.

Where should nurses start in shaping public understanding of nursing?

Try advocating about health in your community or on social media. Learning how to advocate calmly and effectively with people who think differently is a vital skill. Consider the example of Brooklyn oncology nurse Blima Marcus, who has mounted an extensive grassroots campaign to allay measles vaccination fears in her ultra-Orthodox Jewish community.

Engage with the news media, at any level you can, and offer expert input on health topics. Respond quickly when reporters call. Consider media training. Many health systems and universities have a media or public relations office that can help. Make sure that office also knows how you can help them.

Nursing scholars have a special

responsibility to pursue mainstream media coverage for their work. That kind of coverage builds public awareness that nurses do important research.

Nursing groups can host conferences, workshops, and campaigns that promote nursing expertise to the media. And they can create user-friendly online databases of nurse experts. Make sure journalists can easily find a nurse to speak about fields like brain health, trauma care, and intimate partner violence on your website.

Universities and hospitals should promote their nursing to the media. Ideally, they would have a public relations person dedicated to nursing. Instead of focusing solely on physicians, hospital websites should highlight nursing expertise and innovations for the public. National Nurses Week is a great time to alert the media to special events that highlight nursing skill!

Nurses should also create their own media. Because physician characters on TV perform dramatic work that nurses do in real life, many people don't know that nursing is important and exciting. But nurses have stories and insights about the human condition that would make for excellent media, fictional and non-fictional. Consider keeping a (HIPAA-compliant) journal to help you remember notable events, trends, and people you encounter. Then think how you might tell those stories, maybe through features, op-eds, blog posts, or video.

Many nurses have created helpful media.



NY nurses meet with Representative John Faso at the 2017 Lobby Day

Some host radio programs. These include *Healthcetera*, hosted by Diana Mason and Barbara Glickstein, and *All About Nursing*, with host Joyce Batcheller. Other nurses have explored aspects of nursing through written work, including best-selling author Echo Heron. In 2008, the poetry magazine *RATTLE* published a special issue with many compelling poems—all by nurses!

We believe it is critical for nurses to advocate to improve existing media portrayals of nursing. See a popular television show that does not accurately depict the role of nurses in health care? Let the producers know! Use social media or any form of feedback you prefer.

And please support advocacy campaigns of your professional nursing organizations.

The Truth About Nursing offers many opportunities, with campaigns on media ranging from news sources to Hollywood to advertisers. Our new initiative, the Coalition for Better Understanding of Nursing, has detailed plans to create lasting change. Learn more about the initiative at www.nursing-coalition.org and The Truth About Nursing at www.truthaboutnursing.org.

Above all, the four million U.S. nurses must believe in their own health expertise and their own autonomy. Those qualities are worth celebrating all year—by telling the world about them!

—Sandy Summers, MSN, RN, MPH, Executive Director, The Truth About Nursing and Harry Jacobs Summers, Senior Advisor, The Truth About Nursing



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National Nurses Week History

Since 1896, the nursing profession has been supported and promoted by the American Nurses Association (ANA). All ANA's state and territorial nurses' associations promote the nursing profession and conduct celebrations during National Nurses Week to recognize the contributions that nurses and nursing make to the community.

In 1993, the American Nurses Association declared May 6-12 as the national week to celebrate nurses and elevate the nursing profession. National Nurses Week is a time for everyone - individuals, employers, other health care professionals, community leaders, patients and nurses - to recognize the vast contributions and positive impact of America's 4 million registered nurses.

National Nurses Week begins each year on May 6th and ends on May 12th, Florence Nightingale's birthday. These permanent dates enhance planning and position National Nurses Week as an

established annual recognition event. During the week, certain days have been especially designated: May 6 is National RN Recognition Day, May 8 is National Student Nurses Day and National School Nurse Day is celebrated on the Wednesday within the week regardless of its date.

The first National Nurses Week was observed in 1954 from October 11-16. It marked the 100th anniversary of Florence Nightingale's mission to the Crimea. In the following years there were attempts to establish a national nurses' week, but Congress decided to discontinue its practice of joint national week resolutions.

Since 1965, the International Council of Nurses (ICN) has celebrated May 12, Florence Nightingale's birthday, as International Nurse Day. For more information on the history of Nurses Week visit www.nursingworld.org.

— Karen A. Ballard, MA, RN, FAAN, Nursing Consultant on Nursing Practice and Policy Issues



Reflections on “Nursing as Metaphor”

For this 2019 Nurses Week Supplement, ANA-New York, the New York constituent of the American Nurses Association, requested Claire M. Fagin, PhD, RN, FAAN to reflect on a column, “Nursing as Metaphor”, that she wrote in the last century with another nurse leader, Donna Diers.

In the *New England Journal of Medicine* (July 14, 1983) these two nurses, Claire Fagin (University of Pennsylvania, School of Nursing) and Donna Diers (Yale University, School of Nursing), decided to share their thoughts on nursing and being a nurse in a society that seemed confused about the profession and its practitioners.. They discussed how nurses in social situations often seemed to make others feel uncomfortable. Some of their observations, as noted in italics, included:

Perhaps we can deal with the social perception by examining the metaphors that underlie the concept of “nurse” – metaphors that influence not only language but also thought and action.

They suggested that nursing can be viewed as a *metaphor for mothering, class struggle, equality, conscience, intimacy, and sex.*

Among physicians, nursing may be a metaphor for conscience. Nurses see all that happens in health care – the neglect as well as the cures, the reasons for failure as well as success.

The metaphors, if we turn them around, can easily work to explain our position. Intimacy – why shrink from the word, even while we educate ourselves about its finer meaning – equality, conscience and the many qualities of motherhood (another word that can usefully be separated from its stereotype) are exactly what draw people into nursing and keep them there.

So much for the metaphors of others. For ourselves? We think of ourselves as Florence Nightingale – tough, canny, powerful, autonomous and heroic.

Claire Fagin's 2019 Reflections on the 1983 Nursing as Metaphor:

When Donna Diers and I wrote “Nursing as Metaphor” it was the result of a total meeting of the minds. In conversation one day we finished each other's sentences as we were discussing the concept. We had both been thinking along

these lines as a result of so many almost ridiculous experiences. My own culminated in a response that I received during introductions at a lovely NYC West Side party: “a nurse, why I've never met a nurse socially before”. Almost speechless at the time I use this moment to reality check whether anything has changed.

My mode is simple. I always introduce myself as a nurse. Whatever strangers find out about my career either comes from friends concerned that, somehow, I will be demeaned or eventually from me, if the conversation goes on and takes that direction.

What have I learned?

Yes, many of the old attitudes still exist aided by advertisements, physician- dominated television fictional and news shows, and long held fantasies.

But, no, these attitudes do not seem pervasive and clearly are mitigated by the nurses that people meet in hospitals, home care, and socially. I don't believe I would hear a response like that above at a cocktail party today. For the most part, Americans appreciate nurses, perhaps more than nurses themselves.

Organizations like The Truth



Claire M. Fagin, PhD, RN, FAAN

about Nursing work continuously inside nursing and out to protect nursing's image. They recently succeeded in getting Hooters restaurants to eliminate lascivious nursing uniforms from their female wait staff's collection. Other organizations are taking more action than

in previous years and that helps account for changes in perception.

It is a pleasure to identify myself as a nurse.

– Claire M. Fagin, PhD, RN, FAAN Fagin, C. and Diers, D. *Nursing as metaphor. New England Journal of Medicine, 309 (2):116-117.*



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NATIONAL NURSES WEEK 2019



AMERICAN NURSES ASSOCIATION

ANA-New York, the state constituent of the American Nurses Association, is pleased to be able to collaborate with The Daily News on this Nurses Week Supplement in honoring the nursing profession.

Pictured: New York nurses and ANA leaders meet with Representative Paul Tonko at the 2018 Lobby Day

4 Million Reasons to Celebrate

Let's celebrate and promote workforce diversity

As we count down to the start of National Nurses Week (NNW) on May 6, I'd like to share some numbers. The first is 4 million—the estimated number of registered nurses in this country. With that figure in mind, the American Nurses Association (ANA) chose this year's NNW slogan, "4 Million Reasons to Celebrate," to illustrate our sheer numbers and our positive impact on healthcare.



Each and every one of us has a reason to celebrate. Maybe a patient received much-needed follow-up care because of your persistent advocacy, or your research was published, or you led a public health effort to create safer home environments. Beyond our day-to-day accomplishments, NNW provides us with the opportunity to think about what it means to be part of our well-respected, trusted profession that draws people from various backgrounds in pursuit of a common goal—to make a difference in the health and wellbeing of others.

Here are more statistics: The U.S. population is now estimated at more than 328 million. And in 2015, the Census Bureau identified at least 350 languages spoken in U.S. homes, highlighting America as a culturally diverse nation.

These are our patients, and we constantly strive to provide quality, culturally competent care to all, and

to reduce health disparities in our communities. I believe overall, nurses are succeeding. We also are making some gains in building a more diverse workforce, in terms of race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, creed, and age. All these successes should be recognized and celebrated. But there is room for improvement.

Statistics on underrepresented populations in the RN workforce vary. However, look at just three findings from the 2017 National Nursing Workforce Survey: Men make up just over 9% of working RNs, only about 5% of respondents indicated they were of Hispanic or Latino origin, and only 6.2% are Black/African-American. We need to make sure the RN workforce truly reflects society and that our profession is open and welcoming to all. A diverse workforce allows us to use our varying cultural perspectives to ensure all patients and populations receive optimal and empathic care, which also may speed up their recovery and reduce the risk of preventable chronic conditions. In my culture, for example, older African-American patients may be afraid to ask their healthcare providers questions.

To promote workforce diversity, I particularly encourage nurses who come from underrepresented populations to strengthen our efforts to reach out to those from similar backgrounds—and to do it early. Go to middle schools, scouting groups, and community centers, for example. Through our presence, we can break down stereotypes of what nurses look like and what we do, and we can expand those recruitment efforts by going where people of all ages gather—whether it's the local barbershop or church.

All nurses can speak to how our profession is vital to communities and personally rewarding. Share information with guidance counselors, neighborhood leaders, and potential recruits about other nurses' successes and programs that can help those interested achieve and advance their career in nursing. One example at ANA is the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration Minority Fellowship Program, which supports nurses from underrepresented ethnic minority groups. This year, the program is celebrating its 45th anniversary, and we are proud of the contributions of its more than 400 fellows.

Also talk about financial-assistance programs that can help offset education costs. Work with ANA to advocate for sustained funding of Title VIII workforce development programs, which include workforce diversity grants. Encourage employers to recruit and advance nurses from underrepresented populations.

My personal goal is to collaborate with nursing groups whose members are underrepresented in our profession to advance our mutual aims on workforce diversity and inclusion.

Finally, check out #NursesWeek and stay tuned for other ways we can celebrate all that we are through upcoming Nursing Now global events. Happy National Nurses Week!

Ernest Grant, PhD, RN, FAAN
President, American Nurses Association



A message from the ANA-NY president

Dear Nurses and Friends of Nursing,

It is once again my pleasure to recognize the annual celebration of National Nurses Week – a recognition of nurses' numerous contributions to the nation's health care system. This year's theme, as chosen by the American Nurses Association, is **4 Million Reasons to Celebrate**, illustrating the increasing numbers of nurses in our country and their potential for changing the nation's health care system and impacting the health of individuals and their communities.

ANA President Ernest Grant in his message discussed the need for diversity in the nursing workforce to reflect the increasing cultural diversity of the U.S. population. According to the National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) in NYS as of April 2019, there are 313,542 registered professional nurses (RNs) (CA has the most with 328,793), and 80,044 licensed practical nurses (LPNs) (second only to TX with 107,007) licensed by New York State. According to the New York-based Center for Workforce Studies (2016), not surprisingly, more registered nurses are employed in urban (86.4%) as opposed to rural areas (13.6%); the nursing workforce is aging in both areas, and more nurses are employed in hospitals, but their numbers are growing in ambulatory, community based centers and facilities. While the percentages of White, Black and Asian RNs are like their percentages in the state's general population, Hispanic/Latinos remain underrepresented in registered nursing (6.0%) compared to their presence in the state's population (18.2%). It is important that our patients and their families recognize themselves in their nursing staff.

Diversity in the nursing workforce can include age, gender, sexual orientation, race, ethnicity, religion, national origin, socioeconomic status, level of education, disability, and physical characteristics. In ANA's *Nursing: Scope and Standards of Practice*, RNs are advised to practice "in a manner that is congruent with cultural diversity and inclusion principles" in recognition of the nation's changing population and needs of the health care consumer. Understanding the many differences between the various cultures of patients and the health care system's own unique culture is critical as such understanding can make a difference in the health and well-being of individuals, families and communities.

Virginia Henderson, a nursing leader and graduate of Columbia University, provided a definition of nursing (1966) that resonates with the unique function of nurses: The practice of nursing is "to assist the individual, sick or well, in the performance of those activities contributing to health or its recovery (or peaceful death) that he/she would perform unaided if he/she had the necessary strength, will or knowledge". Nursing is a fulfilling, challenging, satisfying and rewarding profession.

Unfortunately, there are still false nursing stereotypes that deter individuals from pursuing it as a career. Recently, a Washington State Senator angered nurses when making comments on a pending bill that would require uninterrupted meal and rest breaks and mandatory overtime protections for nurses. She argued that the bill was not necessary as it was her opinion that some nurses actually spend a lot of time playing cards especially in small, rural hospitals. In addition to wondering where one might find these cardplaying nurses why would a legislator not understand that nurses dealing with life and death situations would function better if meal and break times and mandatory overtime concerns were addressed by legislation?

All nurses need to commit to keeping the profession vital, strong, and diverse by seeking out both traditional students and individuals seeking second careers to see nursing as the rewarding career it is. Participate in National Nurses Week and celebrate our profession!



Elisa A. Mancuso, MS, RNC-NIC, FNS, AE-C
President, American Nurses Association - NY
Professor, Suffolk County Community College



**NATIONAL
NURSES WEEK
2019**

NATIONAL NURSES WEEK MAY 6 - 12, 2019



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For more information on BronxCare's nursing programs or to apply for a position, contact NursingCareers@bronxcare.org, call 718-960-2021, or visit linkedin.com.



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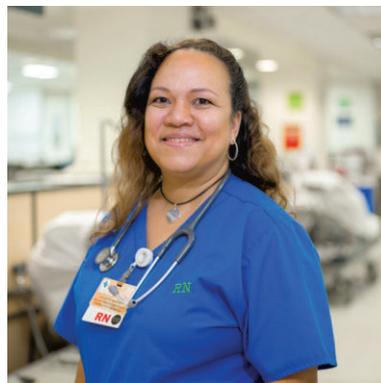
Yulia Zelatis, RN
Coronary Intensive Care Unit.



Tasania Rhoden, RN
Labor and Delivery.



Carla Lowe, RN, Clinical Resource Manager, Emergency Medicine, and **Stephen Charles, RN**, Patient Care Manager, Emergency Medicine.



Lizzette Mooney, RN, Emergency Medicine.



BronxCare Health & Wellness Center Nurses (L to R): **Althea Lyons, RN**, and **Rashida Brooks, LPN**.



Nursing Staff, Psychiatry, **Marie Dee, RN** (Standing, front), with Patient Care Technicians (L to R): **Leonardo Aquino**, and **Denise Hicks**.

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 Gender: Male/Female: _____ Credentials: _____
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Professional Information:

What is your primary role in nursing (position description)?

- Clinical Nurse/Staff Nurse
- Nurse Educator or Professor
- Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (NP, CNS, CNM, CRNA)
- Nurse Manager/Nurse Executive (including Director/CNO)
- Not currently working in nursing
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What is your current employment status?

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NATIONAL NURSES WEEK 2019
AMERICAN NURSES ASSOCIATION



MAY 6-12, 2019

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4 million REASONS TO CELEBRATE

ANA-NY and ANA Celebrate **National Nurses Week 2019**

**by Recognizing All New York
Nurses for Your Dedicated Service!**

Join ANA-New York and ANA as We Celebrate National Nurses Week, May 6-12

During National Nurses Week, we would like to extend a special thanks to you, our nurses, as you continue to provide the highest level of quality care to your patients. You deserve special recognition for your vast contributions and the positive impact you make every day!

National Nurses Week begins each year on May 6th and ends on May 12th, Florence Nightingale's birthday. These permanent dates position National Nurses Week as an established recognition event.

As we explore this year's theme, "4 Million Reasons to Celebrate," go to **NationalNursesWeek.org** to:

- **DOWNLOAD** the National Nurses Week resource toolkit;
- **REGISTER** for the FREE webinar with Twitter Chat: Nurses4Us: Elevating the Profession! **May 8, 2019 1:00-2:00 p.m. EDT**
- **CELEBRATE** in-style with exclusively branded items from the ANA e-store.

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National Nurses Week

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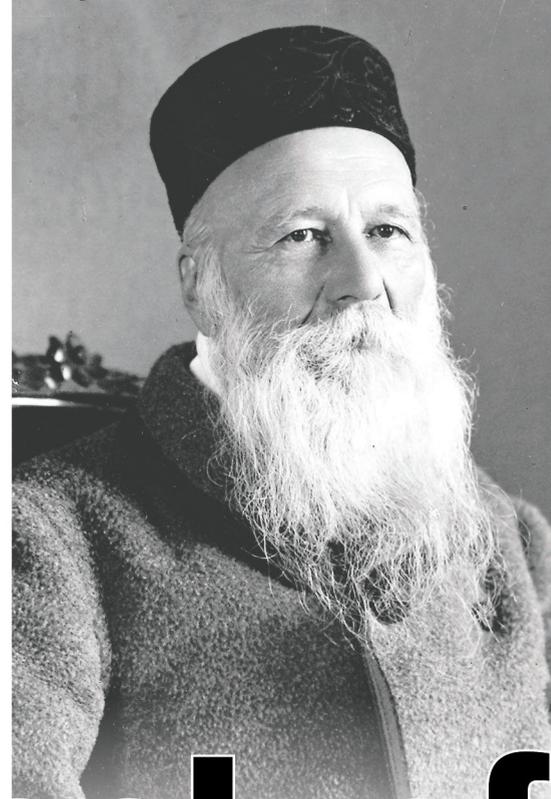
May 6: Gertrude LaBrake Fife



May 7: Mary Eliza Mahoney



May 8: Henri Dunant



A Nurses Week of

In their *Nursing Illuminations – A Book of Days*, van Betten and Moriarty identify the following individuals as nurses who have contributed to the profession and were born during National Nurses Week: Gertrude LaBrake Fife, Mary Eliza Mahoney, Henri Dunant, Elizabeth Freeman, Peter Buerhaus, Martha Rogers, and Florence Nightingale.

May 6: Gertrude LaBrake Fife

A pioneer in the art and science of nurse anesthesia Ms. Fife was a founder of the American Association of Nurse Anesthetists (AANA). She worked tirelessly in establishing educational accreditation and certification programs for nurse anesthesia and advocated for independent legal status for nurse anesthetists. Ms. Fife was the Director of the University Hospitals School of Anesthesia in Ohio. She introduced various anesthesia techniques that supported patients during cardiac and open-chest surgeries and spearheaded the use of preanesthetic agents.

May 7: Mary Eliza Mahoney

Ms. Mahoney was the first African-American professional nurse in the United States graduating from the New England Hospital for Women and Children in 1879. She was 33 years old when accepted as a student nurse having previously served for 15 years at the hospital as a cook, maid, and washerwoman. Throughout her life she was a strong proponent of rights for women including their right to vote and at 76 she was one of the first women in Boston to register after the passage of the 19th Amendment. In 1908, Ms. Mahoney co-founded with Adah B. Thoms the National Association of Colored Graduate Nurses. She was inducted into the American Nurses Association's Hall of Fame in 1976 and into the National Women's Hall of Fame in 1993.

May 8: Henri Dunant

While not a trained nurse, Henri Dunant when visiting Italy during the Franco-Prussian War became aware of the atrocities of war and the ministering women who provided care to the injured and dying regardless of their allegiance. His writing of his experience led to the formation of the International Committee for the Relief of the Wounded, the precursor of the International Committee of the Red Cross. He was a fervent abolitionist and supporter of the establishment of the Geneva Convention. For his work in these areas he would share the 1901 Nobel Peace Prize.

May 9: Elizabeth Freeman

Born into slavery, Elizabeth Freeman took her name after successfully suing for her freedom under the newly passed Massachusetts Constitution (1780) claiming that if "all people were born free and equal", so was she. As an accomplished caregiver, she was known as a healer, midwife and nurse. After attaining her freedom, Ms. Freeman stayed with the family as a paid servant. She was particularly skillful in assisting the mistress of the family in dealing with severe, sometimes violent, bouts of depression. Family members noted their gratitude for her ability to teach them how to intervene with their loved one's depression.

May 10: Peter Buerhaus

Dr. Peter Buerhaus is a Professor in the College of Nursing and Director of the Center for Interdisciplinary Health Workforce Studies at Montana State University. Previously, Dr. Buerhaus was the Valere Potter Distinguished Professor of Nursing and Professor of Health Policy at Vanderbilt University, and Assistant Professor of Health Policy and Management at Harvard School of Public Health. As a healthcare economist,

researcher, writer, educator, and nurse, Dr. Buerhaus is well known for his studies and publications focused on the nursing and physician workforces in the United States, particularly nursing shortages, which he interprets in their short and long term effects on the delivery of care and nurses' responsibilities in addressing them.

May 11: Martha E. Rogers

An international, national, and state nursing leader, Dr. Martha Rogers (scientist, researcher, educator, author) is well-known to generations of nurses in the NYC area. Between 1952 and 1975, she was Professor and Head of the Division of Nursing at New York University becoming Professor Emeritus in 1979. Her strong background in sciences guided NYU to develop the nursing program as a distinct body of scientific knowledge. Dr. Rogers' challenged the nursing profession with her "Science of Unitary Human Beings" as published in *An Introduction to the Theoretical Basis of Nursing*. Nursing exists to serve people. Dr. Rogers insisted that nursing practice must flow from a knowledge base of nursing science.

May 12: Florence Nightingale

Ms. Nightingale is recognized internationally as the "Founder of Modern Nursing". She was committed to improvements in sanitation, hygiene, and the health of populations. Born into a wealthy family, Nightingale had the benefit of an education, which was a rarity for women at that time. Fiercely independent and without her parents' approval, she chose to study nursing at Kaiserworth Hospital in Germany. In 1855, Florence Nightingale and a small contingent of nurses were sent to Scutari to provide care to British soldiers serving in the Crimean War. The improvements she achieved there added to her reputation and support for the Nightingale School for Nurses at London's St. Thomas Hospital. The Nightingale Model eventually was used in the development of nursing schools throughout the world. Her advancement of public health services provided for a basis of the administrative structure of the U.K.'s National Health Service.

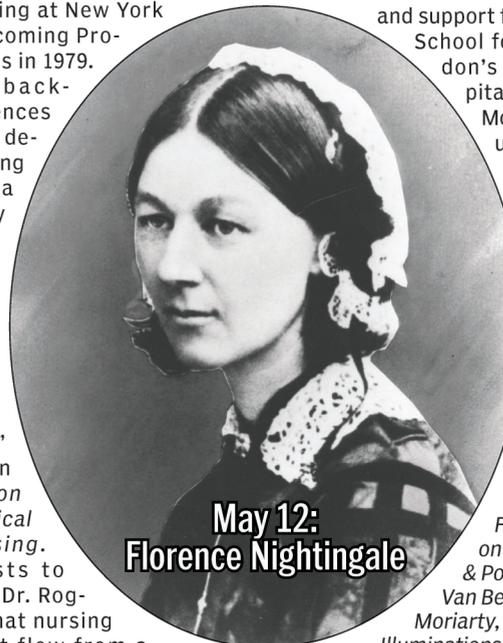
— Karen A.

Ballard, MA, RN,
FAAN Consultant
on Nursing Practice
& Policy Issues;

Van Betten, P. and
Moriarty, M. (2004). *Nursing
Illuminations—A Book of Days*.

Mosby: St. Louis, MO.

May 12:
Florence Nightingale



ADVERTISING SUPPLEMENT

National Nurses Week

May 9: Elizabeth Freeman



May 10: Peter Buerhaus



May 11: Martha E. Rogers



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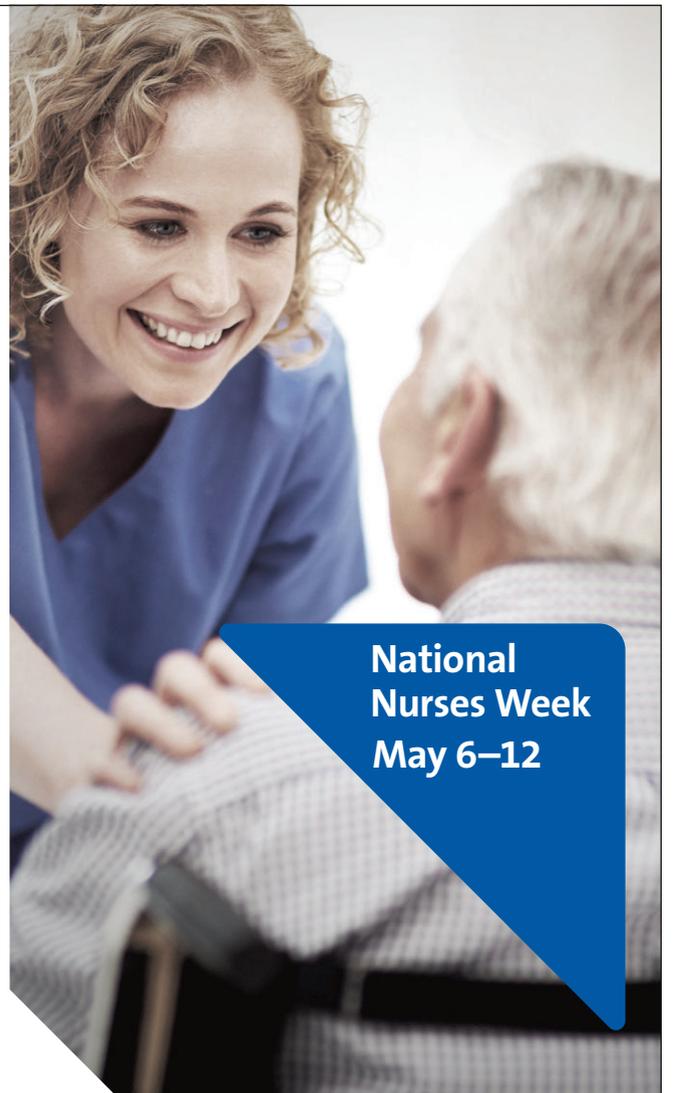
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Nurses Week
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- Faith Roberts, MSN, RN, Director Magnet, Professional Practice and Parish Nursing, Carle Foundation Hospital and Carle Physician Group

Join the conversation on Twitter with **#NursesWeekLive**. During the webinar, you can follow highlights from **@ANANursingWorld** and engage in discussion with your peers. Following the webinar, you'll have the opportunity to take part in a special Q&A with nurse leaders!

Join Us:

May 8

1:00 pm EDT

Register:

pages.nursingworld.org/ana-2035_nnw19_phase2

Open House Reception

The American Nurses Association of New York cordially invites you to its new Albany headquarters, located across the street from the New York State Capitol building.

Agenda

1:30 pm Sign In / Welcome

2:00 pm Lobbyist Presentation

2:30 pm Meet the Board of Directors

3:00 pm Networking

Join Us:

150 State Street
4th Floor - Suite 4001
Albany, NY 12207

Saturday, June 8

1:30 - 3:30 pm

RSVP by May 24:

<https://bit.ly/2VfXBCi>



New York State Capitol building — across the street from ANA-NY

The Nightingale Pledge

I solemnly pledge myself before God and in the presence of this assembly, to pass my life in purity and to practice my profession faithfully. I will abstain from whatever is deleterious and mischievous and will not take or knowingly administer any harmful drug. I will do all in my power to maintain and elevate the standard of my profession and will hold in confidence all personal matters committed to my keeping and all family affairs coming to my knowledge in the practice of my calling. With loyalty will I endeavor to aid the physician in his work and devote myself to the welfare of those committed to my care.

— Florence Nightingale
(original pledge)

A modern Nightingale pledge:

I pledge myself here, before my God and in the presence of this assembly, to practice my profession with integrity. I will endeavor to maintain and elevate the standard of nursing, both as a science and as an art.

I wholeheartedly recognize the importance of high standards of care and of personal accountability. I devote

myself to the healing, protection, and welfare of those committed to my care.

I accept a duty to work for the improvement of health in the communities in which I live and work. I will hold in confidence all personal matters committed to my keeping and will respect the privacy of health information.

I will act with compassion in ethical matters. I will not knowingly administer or consume any harmful substance. I commit to interdisciplinary collaboration and lifelong learning.

I fully acknowledge the seriousness of the responsibility that I accept in my profession, and the significance of this pledge that I take today.

— Lorita Renfro, AJN
Off the Charts Blog

