



The Mississippi RN

THE MISSISSIPPI NURSES ASSOCIATION IS THE VOICE OF REGISTERED NURSES IN MISSISSIPPI AND HAS PROVIDED LEADERSHIP TO IMPROVE THE HEALTH OF ALL PEOPLE FOR THE PAST 100 YEARS

Vol. 76, No. 4

Quarterly circulation approximately 53,000 to all RNs, LPNs, and Student Nurses in Mississippi.

Winter 2014

Working Together – Working as One Voice

Debbie Allen, RN, MSN
MNA Vice-President

As an organization in today's changing climate, our membership growth over the last several years is indeed an accomplishment. I would like to thank our dedicated District Presidents and members for their continued grassroots activities and membership drives! Your enthusiasm and commitment to provide regular meetings, continuing education, legislative forums, community service projects and fundraising for scholarships are to be commended.



Debbie Allen

Our District Presidents are crucial to our membership goals of increasing visibility at schools of nursing, increasing new graduate membership, increasing visibility at places of employment and implementing a grassroots campaign. As you make plans for the coming year, I would like to encourage you to let MNA and MNF know about activities not only at your district, but also at your employer and your schools. Our Executive Director, Teresa Malone and Rosalyn Howard, MNF Executive Director, have attended and would like to continue to be visible at benefit fairs, new employee orientations and career fairs.

MNA is continually striving to make communications more efficient and easier for our members. We have the ability to provide district group emails, and to coordinate webinar meetings. Should you need these for your district, please contact the MNA office. MNA currently is hosting meetings every other month for APRN Owned Clinics. MNA also has a Facebook page and we encourage everyone to "like" the page and ask your colleagues and friends to "like" us as well. Your membership in MNA provides opportunities for registered nurses to stay informed, to attend educational sessions and to be "ONE VOICE."

We need all registered nurses working together to educate their colleagues of the importance of being a member of MNA and having an understanding of the work MNA performs for the nurses in our State. I challenge each of you to bring 3 members to MNA this year! Think of the impact that would have on the membership of MNA!

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A Message from the President

Jennifer Hitt, PhD, MSN, BSN, NLN-CNE
MNA President

We are fresh off the heels of another successful MNA convention. With the theme of "Trek into the Future of Health Care," it is a good time to reflect on the future of MNA. We are excited to welcome several new board members to MNA. Dr. Tonya Moore (Secretary), Dr. John Hodnett (Director, Council on Nursing Research), and Dr. Linda Watkins (Director, Council on Advanced Practice Nursing) were elected at our 103rd House of Delegates.



Jennifer Hitt

We look forward to working with these outstanding members as we move into the future.

Re-elected to their positions were Debbie Allen (Vice-President), Ann Barnes (Treasurer), Sandy Arnold (Director, Council on Nursing Practice), and Tonya Harbison (Director, Council on Health Affairs). I would like to extend a special thank you to our outgoing Board members: Dr. Mary Stewart, Michelle Burns, and Dr. Linda Sullivan, who served with dedication and provided invaluable wisdom to our Board. Our success lay not only with our membership, but also with our leadership. I thank both the outgoing and current board members for their dedication and service!

I would also like to thank Deloris Slade (Director, Council on Nursing Education) and the Provider Unit for the fantastic educational offerings at Convention this year. The topics were timely and innovative. A special thank you goes to Dr. Amber Arnold (Director, Council on Organizational Affairs) and the Convention Planning Committee for their hard work throughout the year.

We were especially fortunate to have great keynote speakers. Thank you Ms. Wanda Jones and the Office of Nursing Workforce for sponsoring Dr. Barbara Nichols, who shared her work on diversity and the global nursing workforce. Dr. Nichols is a trailblazer in the field of diversity, and her remarks were inspiring. On Thursday, attendees at the Sigma Theta Tau luncheon sponsored by Delta State University learned from one of the best, Dr. Shelby Polk, who provided information on grant opportunities in Mississippi and the Healthy Lifestyle Center. During the general session, distinguished panelists, Ms. Cynthia Broome, Dr. Tearsanee Carlisle Davis, and Ms. Jaime Wheeler provided insight into one of the most significant changes in nursing practice, telehealth and what it means for the future of nurses. On Friday, we were honored to have as our luncheon speaker, Dr. Susan Apold. Dr. Apold is renowned as an advocate and national voice for nurse practitioners with many media appearances and publications to her credit as she pursues high quality, affordable and accessible health care for our nation's health care consumers.

Both MNA and student attendees were able to hear the remarkable story of Nicole Marquez at the Joint Convention Session. Her journey following a traumatic accident left those in the audience in awe. I especially appreciated her words of wisdom to the students. One student even shared that she was unsure if nursing was the right choice for her at this moment, but after hearing Ms. Marquez, she realized she is on the right path.

We appreciate the Mississippi Association of Student Nurses for returning their convention to the Coast this year. MASN had a record-breaking attendance, and their energy was palpable. We hope you continue to join us in the future!

As we move into 2015, let's all keep the future of nursing on our mind. We are in a unique time for nursing, but it is a time to break new ground in our profession, not only in Mississippi, but also globally. We need you as a member of MNA to help us continue to be the leader in breaking that ground!

Mississippi Nurses Foundation Receives \$100,000 Donation from South Mississippi Home Health



Pictured from left to right, (front row): Amber Arnold, MNA Director, Council on Organizational Affairs; Sandi Arnold, MNA Director, Council on Nursing Practice; Rosalyn Howard, MNF Executive Director; Mary Stainton, Retired RN; Penny Lovitt, RN, Regional Operations Director, Deaconess HomeCare; (back row): John Hodnett, MNA Director, Council on Nursing Research; LaDonna Northington, MNF President and Ann Barnes, MNA Treasurer.

See page 6 for more information



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Mark Your Calendar!

EVENT	WHERE & WHEN
Controlled Substances Workshop 10 Hour Video	Madison, MS: December 4 - 5, 2014 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
NRCME/FMCSA DOT Medical Examiner Course Mississippi Center for Nursing	Madison, MS: January 9, 2015 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Lobby Day Section C of the 1 st floor Rotunda at the MS State Capitol	Jackson, MS: January 20, 2015 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
2015 Legislative Nursing Summit Jackson Convention Complex	Jackson, MS: January 27, 2015
Legislative Reception Fairview Inn	Jackson, MS: February 4, 2015 5 p.m. - 7 p.m.
Nightingale Awards Gala Jackson Marriott Downtown	Jackson, MS: March 2, 2015 7 p.m. - 9 p.m.
Treasures of France Tour Paris, Arles, Avignon, Antibes, Grasse, Nice & Monaco	Travel Tour: March 19 - 28, 2015
2015 APRN Spring Conference Bancorp South Arena & Conference Center	Tupelo, MS: April 24 - 25, 2015
Trains, Wineries & Treasures of Northern California San Francisco, Yosemite, Sacramento, Lake Tahoe & Napa	Travel Tour: June 14 - 22, 2015
Alaska Adventure Featuring Seattle, the Gateway to the Pacific Northwest	Travel Tour: August 25 - September 4



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Mississippi Nurses Foundation News



Mississippi Nurses Foundation
Nurses Touch Lives



The Mississippi Nurses Foundation and the Mississippi Baccalaureate and Higher Degree Nursing Council (MBHDN) provided MNA members an opportunity to attend the 103rd Mississippi Nurses' Association Annual Convention in Biloxi, MS. Thirty-four nurses from around the state attended the convention through a grant from the Mississippi State Department of Health-Office of Tobacco Control. Each recipient received a \$385 stipend to attend the entire convention, October 21st-24th. Fifty-four nurses attended the pre-convention workshop.

The pre-convention workshop speakers were Christian D. Pruett, PhD, from the University of Mississippi Medical Center, Jackson, MS, and Pamela Lockett from the Mississippi Tobacco Quitline, Ridgeland, MS.

The pre-convention workshop covered the following topics:

- Technology Will take US Where We Have Never Gone Before
- 5 A's Training for Healthcare Providers

MNF provided (Nurses Against Tobacco) t-shirts for each nurse who received a stipend to attend the Pre-Convention and Annual Convention.



A Special THANK YOU to the Sponsors of the 2014 MNF Silent Auction. We raised over \$5,000 with your help!

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Mississippi Nurses Foundation Announces Winner

The Mississippi Nurses Foundation congratulates Mrs. Sherry Rucker James of Lucedale, MS, as the grand prize winner in the 2014 Volvo or Grand Vacation Raffle held October 24th at the Mississippi Nurses' Association Annual Convention.

Sherry began her nursing career in 1986. She earned an Associate Degree in Nursing from Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College, a Bachelor of Science in Nursing and a Master of Science in Nursing Education Administration from the University of Mobile.

She is currently employed as a Nursing Instructor with Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College. In her role, Sherry is responsible for teaching Associate Degree and Practical Nursing Students in the classroom and in clinical settings.

Sherry said, "I enjoy attending the MNA convention each year. One reason is because I enjoy the learning experience that I receive but another reason is because I have a great respect and love for MNA/MNF. When I was working on my Master's degree, my daughter was in a BSN program at the time and my son was graduating from high school. I was working two jobs along with going to school to complete my degree. Financially, I was struggling. I needed **\$971.00** to complete my degree and MNA/MNF graciously assisted with that burden. It was an answered prayer.

I had such a great appreciation that I became a member of MNA in hopes that I may be able to help someone else in need. I bought a "Nurses Touch Lives" car tag and started attending every convention possible. Each year I purchase a ticket for the grand prize with the thought that it really doesn't matter if I win but that I'm contributing to a great cause in hopes of giving back what they had given me."

In weighing her options of the 2015 Volvo XC60, \$10,000 cash, or a seven day Alaskan or Caribbean cruise, **Mrs. James chose the \$10,000 cash prize.**

The Foundation raised over \$23,000 on the raffle; funds will be used to carry out the mission of raising, accepting and dispersing charitable donations to promote professional nursing and better health in Mississippi.

Thank you to all who purchased and sold tickets. It could not have been possible without your help. A very special thanks also goes out to our friends and partners, Paul Moak Automotive and McGhee Cruise and Vacation.



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MNA 2014 CONVENTION



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The Mississippi Baccalaureate and Higher Degree Nursing Council (MBHDN) is committed to improving health care and enhancing professionalism in nursing. We find collaborative, innovative educational solutions to health care needs. By working with others to improve the practice of nursing and providing leadership, we prepare graduates who provide quality, complex care across the state of MS.

Wednesday Keynote Luncheon Sponsor

Mississippi Future of Nursing Action Coalition (MSAC) State Implementation Plan (SIP) Grant and the Mississippi Baptist Medical Center

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Mississippi Vein Institute

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University of Mississippi Medical Center School of Nursing



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MNA 2014 CONVENTION



Diamond Sponsorships continued from page 4



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The **Mississippi Nurses Foundation (MNF)** is a 501(c) 3 charitable organization established by the Mississippi Nurses' Association (MNA) in 1982. Headquartered at the Center for Nursing in Madison, Mississippi, MNF is governed by a Board of Trustees, appointed by the MNA Board of Directors. The primary programs administered by the MNF include scholarship, educational support, continuing education (CE), nursing research, health promotion, and professional development.

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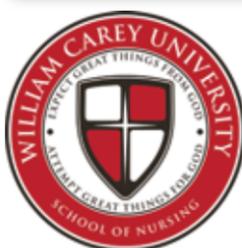
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At **William Carey University**, we believe in high standards for innovative nursing programs delivered in a Christian environment. In response to community need, we offer the following programs via a student friendly hybrid format: RN-BSN, MSN, MSN-MBA, and PhD.

Wednesday Evening Reception Sponsor



University of Mississippi Alumni Association

The **University of Mississippi Nursing Alumni Chapter** held an Alumni Reception at The Redding House on Wednesday, October 22nd.

Special Thanks to the 2014 Convention Sponsors & Exhibitors

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CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS

Continued from page 1

During the 103rd Mississippi Nurses' Association (MNA) Annual Convention, Mary Stainton, RN and Penny Lovitt, RN presented the Mississippi Nurses Foundation (MNF) \$100,000 on behalf of South Mississippi Home Health Foundation.

Mary Stainton stated, "Supporting MNA and MNF had always been an important goal of South Mississippi Home Health. These two professional entities continue to leave a large footprint on nursing in Mississippi through their dedication to nurses and health care. As we experience this ever changing dynamics in health care, nurses must be prepared to meet the challenges. This donation to the MNF will assist nurses in continuing their education as our profession prepares for the future."

The Mississippi Nurses Foundation (MNF) is a 501(c) 3 charitable organization established by the Mississippi Nurses' Association. The primary programs administered by the MNF include scholarship, educational support, continuing education (CE), nursing research, health promotion, and professional development.

To learn more about MNF or to make a donation, visit www.msnursesfoundation.com or call Rosalyn Howard, Executive Director at 601-898-0850.



Wednesday's Keynote Speaker:
Dr. Barbara Nichols
Topic: Diversity and the Global Working Nursing Workforce



Friday's Keynote Speaker:
Dr. Susan Apold
Topic: Leading from the Center: Toward a New Strategy for Nurse Practitioners' Future



Allegis Representative, Jennifer Lipscomb and the Allegis Pharmaceuticals winner of an iPad mini, Kara McKay



WEDNESDAY, GENERAL LUNCHEON
Topic: Telehealth and What it Means for the Future of Nurses.
Panelists - (L to R) Dr. Tearsanee Carlisle Davis, Jaime Wheeler and Cynthia Broome



(L to R) Rosalyn Howard, MNF Executive Director, Sherry Rucker James, the grand prize winner in the 2014 Volvo or Grand Vacation Raffle and Nicole Marquez, speaker for the Friday morning Joint Session with the Students.

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CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS



(L to R) Brenda Castleberry, (Winner of the Karaoke Contest and a \$200 Mastercard Gift Card) and Bobbi Ford, boarding the Captain Pete Dinner Cruise.



Nurses' Feud Winners

(L to R) Amy Forsythe, Cynthia Dean, Host Audwin Fletcher, Amber Arnold and Mary Scott



(L to R) Michelle Burns, Jennifer Hitt and Amber Arnold getting their "trek" on for the dinner cruise.



Michelle Burns won Best Costume on the dinner cruise with her version of futuristic attire. She was awarded two complimentary nights at the Beau Rivage.

Mojo Photo Booth



"I can't quite put my finger on it...but...something's not right."
Shellah Young



Girls just want to have fun!
(L to R) Ashley Krebs, Janet Williams, Karen Sicard and Bobbie Loveless



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(L to R) Tonya Moore, Audwin Fletcher, Vanessa Daniel and Jerry Nash



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Oxford School District Nurse, Meg Hayden, RN, is one of only three nurses in Mississippi to achieve recognition as a National Board Certified School Nurse during the 2013-2014 school year. Meg joins the ranks of only 1.2 percent of all school nurses in Mississippi and less than 3,500 school nurses nationwide.



Starkville native Mary Atkinson Smith was elected as a Distinguished Fellow and Practitioner member of the NAP (National Academies of Practice). Mary was inducted at a Gala Membership Banquet on April 5, 2014 in Alexandria, Virginia.

Executive Director's Column

Teresa Malone



Teresa Malone

When presenting information to registered nurses across the State, everyone is always interested in a legislative update on the past legislative session and our plans for the future. We are excited to have three events scheduled for the upcoming year that will encourage registered nurses to be more involved in the legislative process.

On January 20, 2015, our Lobby Day will provide nurses an opportunity to interact with legislators at the Capital. MNA is appreciative of the attendees and the schools of nursing who have been long-standing supporters of this event and look forward to another successful Lobby Day! We are also honored to be joined by the Mississippi School Nurse Association. This event features a reception line for legislators and provides time for one-on-one conversation with your area's elected officials.

Our Legislative Summit is scheduled for January 27, 2015, at the Jackson Convention Complex. This informative and energizing one day conference brings together nursing professionals and student nurses from across the State. This event covers a wide variety of issues impacting the nursing profession and is a great opportunity to learn from those in the forefront of policy making.

MNA will host a Legislative Reception on February 4, 2015, honoring Mississippi's legislators. We invite you to join us at the Fairview Inn, 734 Fairview St, Jackson, MS 39202, for this opportunity to network with and express our appreciation to the women and men serving in Mississippi's Legislature.

I also want to say a special thank you to those registered nurses and students who shadowed me last year during the legislative session. Your energy and enthusiasm in learning more about the legislative process and how it impacts the nursing profession and patients in Mississippi was inspiring.

Mark your calendars for the Lobby Day, Legislative Summit, and Legislative Reception! With your support and attendance - the VOICE of the nursing profession will ring loud and clear!



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Report from Council on Advanced Practice

Moving Forward – One Voice

Linda Watkins, DNP, FNP-C
MNA Director, Council on Advanced Practice

I appreciate the opportunity you have provided me to serve as the Director of the Advanced Practice Council! I am ecstatic about the potential for many accomplishments that can occur for Nurse Practitioners by speaking with one voice!



Linda Watkins

We owe many thanks to our past Director of Advanced Practice, Dr. Linda Sullivan. Without her many hours of service, we would not be where we are today. Dr. Sullivan has been an inspiration for all of us. THANK YOU, DR. SULLIVAN!

WHAT HAS MNA ACCOMPLISHED FOR THE ADVANCED PRACTICE NURSE

In 2012-2013 MNA stood firm against a regulation issued by the Mississippi Board of Medical Licensure that would have adversely impacted many APRNs and the patients they serve. Along with participating in litigation against this regulation at a cost of approximately \$60,000, MNA also testified before the MBOML at oral hearings. Ultimately, the Board of Medical Licensure withdrew the regulation.

MNA continues to support the APRNs in our State and is participating in another lawsuit against the MBOML. MNA has filed for summary judgment seeking a declaration from the court that certain aspects of the MBOML collaboration requirements, including the "15-mile" rule are invalid and beyond the regulatory power of the MBOML. As you can see, MNA is not just talking about supporting the APRNs in our State, MNA has, is and will continue to actively support and advocate for the nurses of Mississippi.

As early as 2000, MNA has been working diligently toward full scope of practice for the APRNs in our State. MNA's efforts were crucial in obtaining APRNs full prescriptive authority to include controlled substance and in the removal of the joint promulgation to the regulation. In addition, with MNA's support, APRNs have withstood an attempt to control our profession by regulations proposed by another discipline which would have likely indirectly impeded patient access to care.

Great strides were made during the 2014 Legislative Session as we moved forward to remove the formal collaborative agreement; thereby, allowing APRNs to practice to their full scope of training and education. Senator Terry Burton sponsored the Senate bill to remove the formal collaborative agreement and for the first time the bill was heard before the full Senate Public Health Committee, chaired by Senator Dean Kirby. Many committee Senators voted in favor of the bill; however, the bill died in a very close vote. We appreciate Representative Doug McLeod and Representative Dennis DeBar for sponsoring the bill in the House. Unfortunately the bill did not come

before the House committee. Our support is growing exponentially for the removal of this antiquated requirement. MNA will continue working to educate more legislators and obtaining increased support for the APRNs in our State. We need everyone at Lobby Day, Legislative Summit, and at the MNA Legislative Reception. Please make plans to attend all of these events!

We are also excited and appreciative of the support shown by Governor Phil Bryant by his signing of a proclamation recognizing November 9th-15th as the official Nurse Practitioner week for the State of Mississippi. This is the second year Governor Bryant has issued such a proclamation and I ask all of you to send him a note of appreciation.

Every discipline should be able to function to their full scope of training and education. This means that a discipline, such as nursing, should not be controlled by another discipline or profession. As Registered Nurses and Advanced Practice Nurses, we should be aware of the laws and regulations that govern our profession, how those laws and regulations are changed and what we must do to protect our patients and our profession. As our profession moves forward we can no longer ignore the changes that are occurring; we must stay abreast of the educational requirements, DEA regulations, and barriers in providing patient care. As the Director of Advanced Practice, I will make every effort to educate and demonstrate to the advanced practice registered nurses the advantages of being an active member of MNA; for, without the information this organization provides, a nurse practitioner might realize much too late that they are in violation of a regulation or law.

How do we protect our patients and profession by being active in our professional organization at a state and national level. I believe we grow through awareness! As the Director of the Advanced Practice, I will make every effort to educate and demonstrate to the Advanced Practice Nurses the advantages of being an active member of MNA.

I also ask that each APRN in the State support our Political Action Committee! If each of us will contribute \$100, just think of the difference we can make. We will be able to show our appreciation to those men and women in the Mississippi Legislature that have been so willing to support us! Special thanks to all of you who have already contributed to the PAC this year and have pledged to contribute next year as well!

We have accomplished much, but we still want to accomplish more! As a member of MNA, you are showing your support for your profession and are a part of the many accomplishments to come!

Mississippi Voice of Nursing at the White House

Dr. Juanita Graham serves as a liaison representing public health nurses to the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA). Dr. Graham was honored with an invitation to appear at the White House as part of a health professional engagement forum relating to nurses' concerns on the Ebola response. On October 29, Dr. Graham met with White House staff providing public health nursing representation.



Juanita Graham

Included in the meeting were Mr. Ron Klain, Ebola Response Coordinator; Mr. Rand Beers, White House Homeland Security Advisor; and Ms. Christina M. Tchen, Director of Office of Public Engagement. Other nursing groups in attendance included the American Nurses Association, Emergency Nurses Association, and the American Association of Critical Care Nurses. Some of the concerns voiced during the meeting included discrepancies in Ebola guidelines issued by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), lack of a designated contact for questions and concerns regarding Ebola protocols, and understaffing of public health nurses throughout the country. Dr. Graham is excited to continue her relationship with the Office of Public Engagement where she will provide insight and assure nurses' voices are heard. The White House invitation included seating at the President's speech on the Ebola response.



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In Memoriam

Marie Carraway was a Registered Nurse for 44 years and an active, vital member of MNA for 20 years. She served 13 years on MNA's Convention Planning Committee. Upon Marie's retirement in 1996, she was recognized at the House of Delegates for her many years of service and contributions to MNA. She will be missed by all who knew and loved her.



2014 MNA House of Delegates

The 2014 MNA House of Delegates was a great success! The members of the House of Delegates were provided information on the strong financial position of MNA, membership goals for the upcoming year and the many new offerings MNA is providing. In addition, Delegates were updated on the many nursing activities throughout the State through the reports of MNA's guest presenters. MNA works closely with many organizations throughout the State and appreciates those organization's participation at the House of Delegates. Reports were provided by the Mississippi Nurses' Foundation, Mississippi Association of Student Nurses, Mississippi Board of Nursing, Mississippi Organization of Nurse Executives, Mississippi State Department of Health, Deans & Directors Council, Office of Nursing Workforce, Mississippi Institutions of Higher Learning and Mississippi Baccalaureate and Higher Degree Nursing Council.

The House of Delegates also passed a resolution to support the State of Mississippi and our nation's efforts to stop needless accidents related to distracted driving. The passage of this resolution demonstrates MNA membership's commitment to the promotion of health and safety issues to all of Mississippi's citizens.



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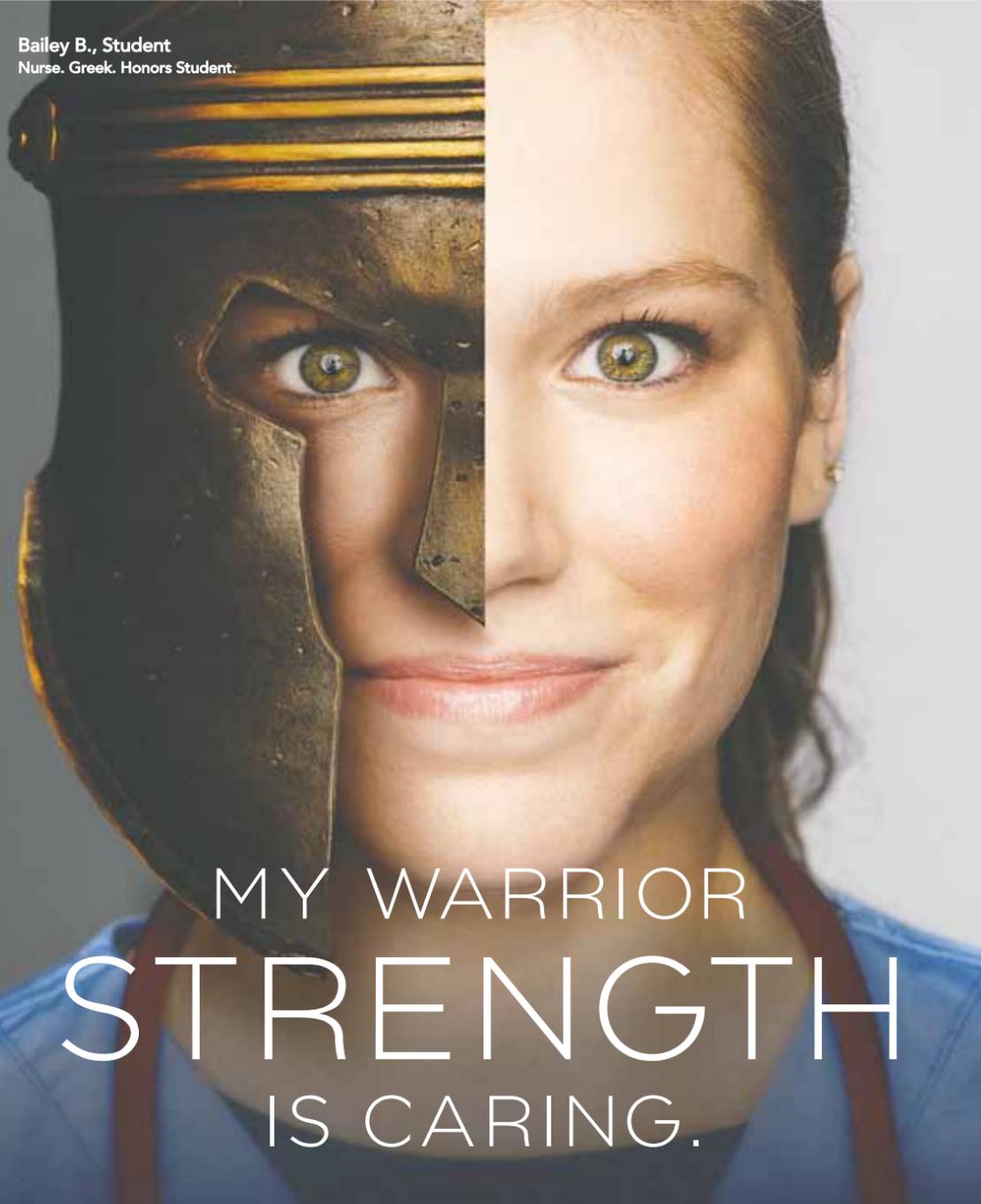
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