Two critical amendment proposals include the one to allow electronic voting on bylaw amendments, thus allowing all members throughout the state to have a voice. A certified firm will administer the electronic vote; those preferring a mail ballot will be facilitated. The second proposal is reduction in Board size from 11 to 7 with four officers and three directors. The Board has traditionally handled operations, events and the bulk of committee work; extreme multitasking has been both draining and limiting in both results and growth.

Dynamic change has shifted operations to staff and on/sub-contracting via the Northeast Multi-State Division. Reducing the size of the Board will free four capable volunteers to focus on valuable committee leadership while collaborating with collegial and interdisciplinary associations toward accomplishing our mission. The Board will have time to focus on resource and leadership development, attend implementation of the strategic plan and develop protocols that facilitate smooth leadership transition at any level. Collectively, we will form a more effective, representative and collaborative voice of nursing in our state.

For this special business meeting, OMNE has been very gracious to offer us meeting space during their excellent two-day event (September 24-25) at the Freeport Hilton Garden Inn. In addition, they are offering ANA-MAINE members the same registration fee as paid by OMNE members to attend the conference.

There is no charge for attendance at the ANA-MAINE Special Membership Meeting though we do ask that you register so that we can anticipate a quorum. If you attend the meeting only, registering online in advance will assist us in anticipating a quorum. Online registration will confirm membership; as well, we will be confirming membership at the event. There will be opportunity to join ANA-MAINE throughout the day at our booth or in advance of our meeting at the foyer registration table. OMNE invites us to join in a dinner (at cost and with advance registration) following our meeting. This will be a great opportunity to network with colleagues from across the state. More details regarding registration for this event will be posted at www.anamaine.org.

Please also mark your calendars. I promise that you will not want to miss the December 4 Annual Meeting, Awards Luncheon, poster presentation and guest speaker, Karen Daley, Immediate Past-president of ANA. The meeting is mid-morning to late afternoon at the Doubletree Hotel directly across from the Maine Mall. Check our website; submit your nominee for awards and prepare inspiring, informative poster presentations!

Be your best and unique self; be in the moment!
You count!
I’m honored to be among you.

Irene Eaton, President
State Epidemiologist
Siiri Bennett, M.D.

Mark your calendar and plan to attend
The American Nurses Association-Maine Annual Conference
Doubletree Hotel, Portland, Maine

December 4, 2015

Including the Presentation of the
Agnes Flaherty Leadership Award and
Sister Consuela White Spirit of Nursing Award

Vendors • Poster Presentations • Networking

Keynote Speaker sponsored by Arthur L. Davis Publishing Agency

KAREN DALEY, PhD, RN, FAAN
Former President of American Nurses Association

Visit www.anamaine.org for updated event information.

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ANTICIPATED DECISION IN THE CASE OF KING V. BURWELL

Thursday, June 25th, The Court issued its much anticipated decision in the case of King v. Burwell. The Court ruled in the wording of the provision. In a 6 to 3 decision, the justices to conclude that the Congress intended the subsidies to apply in states with either their own exchange or those that were already among those in the consensus agreement, was valuable for preparing future initiatives. Just as Maine’s session was about to adjourn, at the end of June, the United States Supreme Court in Washington DC, issued a second important ruling in support of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ACA), passed in 2010. Although the law had been challenged, on Thursday, June 25th, The Court issued its much anticipated decision in the case of King v. Burwell, that supported a key component of the law. In the Court case, the tax credits granted to marketplace enrollees who have given up the insurance if the subsidies had been denied, leaving them potentially uninsured. Studies leading up to the Supreme Court decision supported a key component of the law. In the Court case, the tax credits granted to marketplace enrollees who had been denied, leaving them potentially uninsured.

During the first session of Maine’s 127th legislature, the ANA-Maine participated in several health care advocacy coalitions, providing important opportunities for nursing to speak at public hearings before legislative committees. Among the most active coalition was the informal network of providers and consumers who supported a series of pro-vaccine legislative initiatives. Support for LD 471 An Act to Improve Childhood Vaccination Rates in Maine, sponsored by Dr. Linda Sanborn, was advocated by a coalition including public health leaders, pediatricians, ANA-Maine, the Organization of Maine Nurse Executives (OMNE) and advocates who supported prevention of vaccine preventable diseases. A call to action was sent to ANA-Maine nurses from the website www.anamaine.org in the CQ Roll Call message. At the end of the session in June, the bill had been passed with concurrence in both houses and was awaiting the Governor’s signature. An anticipated gubernatorial veto of LD 471 could be overridden by a 2/3 vote of both the Maine House and the Senate. If the bill becomes law, the provisions will require for a physician or medical provider to provide written documentation for parents or guardians who request a philosophical, religious or medical exemption for children who require immunizations.

During the session, the ANA-Maine led four advocacy education programs for nurses who were interested in learning about public policy. Seminars were presented for nursing students at Eastern Maine Community College (EMCC) in their leadership class led by Pilar Burmeister, N.P. Another day long program was conducted at the Maine State House for graduate students at the University of Maine in Orono in their M.S.N. public policy class with Ann Sossong, professor, and for nurse practitioner students enrolled at Husson University with Moira O’Neill, assistant professor. In June, an orientation with the ANA-Maine legislative committee chair Carey Clark, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of the RN to BSN program, with Irene Eaton, president, Patricia Boston, first vice president, and nurses who were interested in participating, was held at the University of Maine Augusta (UMA).

During the first session of Maine’s 127th legislature, the ANA-Maine was a perfect opportunity for ANA-Maine to continue developing networking relationships with other health care provider groups. Additionally the opportunities to lead educational programs to build a nursing advocacy network in Augusta received excellent feedback and written evaluations.

ANA-Maine is a recognized leader in the recruitment and training of nurses to participate in the public policy process on the legislative committee and even, hopefully, as future state legislators. In so doing, nurses can continue to fulfill the mission of improving health care for all people by advancing nursing practice and education. Contact Juliana L’Heureux for more information about ANA-Maine public policy at juliewriter@hotmail.com.

THE END OF SESSION SUMMARY

The 127th first session of the Maine legislature was a perfect opportunity for ANA-Maine to continue developing networking relationships with other health care provider groups. Additionally the opportunities to lead educational programs to build a nursing advocacy network in Augusta received excellent feedback and written evaluations.

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CINDY HORD, News Editor

MAINE NURSING PRECEPTOR EDUCATION PROGRAM

The premier statewide nursing preceptorship program

This free program is intended to advance and support the recruitment, integration, satisfaction and retention of nurses in Maine. It’s ideal for the experienced RN across health care settings interested in becoming a preceptor, and is a blended learning program with easy-to-use online modules and a one day workshop.

This preceptorship program:

✓ Provides preceptors with the knowledge, skills and abilities to support newly graduated nurses, nurses transitioning to new practice settings, and nursing students
✓ Advances the preceptors’ knowledge about Maine Nursing Core Competencies
✓ Provides preceptors with the knowledge, skills and abilities to support newly graduated nurses, nurses transitioning to new practice settings, and nursing students
✓ Enhances the professional development and lifelong learning of staff
✓ Supports the development of emerging nurse leaders

Program application will be submitted for nursing professional development contact hours.

LUGER CENTER Health Care Alliance of Maine in collaboration with Massachusetts General Hospital

STUDY FOR MORE ENROLLMENT AT LUGERDINE.COM/OPRECEPTORSHIP

STARTS SEP. 16

Chris McNiff, BSN
It is great privilege to have Joyce Cotton, DNP, APRN, BC, VP of Clinical Services and Chief Nursing Officer of Maine Behavioral Healthcare, serve as our lead at the coalition table. Many of you will be privileged to work with and support Joyce in this endeavor – you only need take the initiative and contact her at joycekennebunk@aol.com. I confess: I drove to OMNE’s Bangor meeting with Susan Hassmiller as speaker to support Joyce in her work and to honor my duties as President. Wrong! Totally wrong attitude! Listening to this dedicated nurse leader, I became redirected, humbled and privileged. Appreciating the dedication and challenging teamwork necessary to bring this to Maine, I offer a standing ovation to the OMNE team (see picture of team with Susan Hassmiller). My take away? It was a tremendously transformational experience. I became decisively engaged, committed and clearly aware that not one of us in nursing or in any arena of nursing practice is peripheral to the action beginning to ripple around us. I am firmly committed to greater collaboration with OMNE and nurses at every level in our state. I will be in the moment…even in the midst of a crowd so that I might truly hear, catch the real flavor and respond meaningfully. Only then will I be truly at the table. Who is Susan Hassmiller? An excerpt from an online bio: Susan Hassmiller, PhD, RN, FAAN, joined the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) in 1997, is presently the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation senior adviser for nursing. In partnership with AARP, Hassmiller directs the Foundation’s Future of Nursing: Campaign for Action, which seeks to ensure that everyone in America can live a healthier life, supported by a system in which nurses are essential partners in providing care and promoting health. This 50-state and District of Columbia effort strives to implement the recommendations of the Institute of Medicine’s report on the Future of Nursing: Leading Change, Advancing Health. Hassmiller served as the report’s study director. She is also serving as co-director of the Future of Nursing Scholars program, an initiative that provides scholarships, mentoring and leadership development activities and postdoctoral research funding to build the leadership capacity of nurse educators and researchers. Hassmiller’s passion and commitment to the work at hand, along with her sense of what it would take to have nursing “at the table” was apparent and keenly convincing. Among them were the conviction that nurses must be involved with long lasting interventions such as safe neighborhoods and streets, sidewalks vs. streets for safe ground navigation. Nurses should be on all boards, both nursing and non-nursing, mentor a nurse in the next generation, and bring the language of the IOM initiative to the world. Have you noticed a void when mentioning it even within the profession? Have you felt that void yourself? I have. Susan described nurses as decisive in crisis, having command of teamwork and collaboration. Was she describing you? Are you willing to stretch beyond and make a difference in the MeNAC initiative? If so, please email Joyce Cotton… joycekennebunk@aol.com. Kudos to Donna Deblois, President OMNE and the team who brought this initiative to Maine. 

Irene Eaton, President, ANA-Maine

Susan Hassmiller, PhD, RN, FAAN

Left to right; Donna DeBlois, President, Lisa Harvey McPherson, Karen Meuller, Pam Ernest, Susan Hassmiller, Ann Sossong, Sherry Rogers, Lynn Tumbull, Paula Delahanty, and Lynne Gagnon.

Med Surg RNs Full-Time

Franklin Memorial Hospital is recruiting experienced Medical Surgical Registered Nurses with a minimum of three years of acute care experience with current ACLS/BLS certifications. Applicant must also have strong critical thinking and communication skills. BSN is preferred.

Sign-On Bonus for qualifying nurses.

Call: 1-800-362-6898
Email: humanresources@fchn.org
Apply online: www.fchn.org/employment

An Equal Opportunity Employer Located in Farmington, Maine.

**Sweetser**

Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner (Family or Adult) $2,500 Sign-on Bonus

We are seeking Nurse Practitioners to provide psychiatric evaluations and ongoing psychiatric medication management for a diverse caseload in a recovery focused, integrated care environment.

Maine Psychiatric NP License & DEA Certificate required.

Family Mental Health NP preferred but will also consider Adult MHNP.

Positions available in Brunswick, Lewiston, Rockland/ Belfast/Rockport, and Sanford/Saco.

Interested in making a difference in the lives of the children, adults and families of Maine?

Apply online at: sweetser.org

**USM School of Nursing**

**Faculty Positions:**

The School of Nursing has openings for faculty with a variety of qualifications including school health, medical-surgical, psychiatric mental health, community health nursing, holistic and integrative health, and family psychiatric mental health nurse practitioners. One position may include administrative responsibilities in the undergraduate program. Registered Nurse in Maine and a master’s degree required, doctoral degree preferred. Openings for part-time faculty also exist. For part-time opportunities, email kathryn.a.mitchell@maine.edu.

For full-time faculty positions visit: usm.maine.edu/hr/vacancies-opportunities
Call to Action for ANA-Maine Members!

Patricia Boston, MSN, RN, RRT
First Vice-President ANA-Maine

Business Meeting at Hilton Garden Inn, Freeport, ME
September 24, 2015
4-5 p.m.

The Bylaw Committee and Board of ANA-Maine will present proposed bylaw revisions at the next business meeting, on September 24, 2015, in Freeport, ME.

These changes have been reviewed and approved by the ANA Committee on Bylaws. Due to lack of the required quorum for the last several years, ANA-Maine has, unfortunately, been unable to obtain approval of and implement these revisions. We need to ensure that we will achieve a quorum at this year’s business meeting, pass these amendments and move forward with the work of the association.

The changes being proposed are as follows:
1. Amending all sections referencing the Center for American Nurses as the Center was integrated into ANA;
2. Amending sections to reflect actions of the 2012 ANA House of Delegates that retired the House of Delegates and established the new representative member body, the Membership Assembly;
3. Changing the composition of the ANA-Maine Board: reducing the size of the board from eleven (11) to seven (7) members; eliminating the position of Second Vice-President; converting the position of First Vice-President to President-Elect; reducing the number of Directors from six (6) to three (3); adjusting the election cycle to accommodate this structure and allow continuity; and editing other wording to be consistent with these changes; and
4. Allowing electronic and email voting for the election of officers and board members, ANA-Maine Bylaw changes, and issues before the Board to promote greater member participation and engagement.

It is critical that a quorum is present to vote on these amendments at the September 24 ANA-Maine Business Meeting. The Board strongly encourages all who are able to attend to participate.

Registration details for the meeting will be emailed and posted on the website soon.

Save the date and plan to attend the business meeting on September 24, 2015.

Myra Broadway Celebrates Retirement from Maine State Board of Nursing

Irene Eaton

Myra A. Broadway, JD, MS, RN, retired on July 1, 2015 as the Executive Director of the Maine State Board of Nursing. She was also the past President of the National Council of State Boards of Nursing, Inc.

Myra Broadway celebrated with colleagues at a retirement celebration at Augusta’s Senator Inn. Myra was reigated as a highly effective leader as Executive Director of the Maine State Board of Nursing and as Past President of the National Council State Boards of Nursing (NCS).

Former Executive Director Jean Caron highlighted Myra’s entry to State Board work, the multiple achievements for nursing resulting from Myra’s persistence and commitment to the task at hand. The achievements are an impressive list. Respectfully, I choose to digress a bit and focus on the person I saw come forward during the most down-to-earth celebration of achievement I have ever attended.

I had my first clue with the small, layered retirement cake topped off with a black dog sitting in an Adirondack chair, probably waiting for Myra to show up! Watching her though the evening, one could tell that Myra was not one to linger in the spotlight though willing to celebrate worthy achievements – for the value of the achievement itself. She took the microphone after Jean expounded on her achievements. Service dogs training at the Board of nursing? Staff “adopting” teamwork responsibility for their care? Could this animal loving and care have contributed to a greater ability to deal with the challenges of the day? One could see that the road was certainly tough at times; there was deep friendship and admiration among the team.

Myra, thank you for elevating the profession of nursing, for protecting the public and promoting quality practice. Thank you for being a role model for retaining oneself as a whole person and an exemplar of the healthy nurse. Enjoy climbing those mountains. Do keep a friendly companion sniffing the trail in front of you. Stay healthy, keep laughing, be you!

With greatest respect and delight, Irene Eaton, President, ANA-MAINE.
Although we attempt to be as accurate as possible, information concerning events is published as submitted. We do not assume responsibility for errors. If you have questions about any event, please call the event planner directly.

If you wish to post an event on this calendar, the next submission deadline is September 18, 2015, for the Fall 2015 issue.

Send items to publications@anamaine.org. Please use the format you see in the calendar: date, city, title, sponsor, fee and contact information. There is no charge to post an educational offering.

Advertising: To place an ad or for information, contact sales@aldpub.com.

ANA-MAINE is the ANCC-COA accredited Approver Unit for Maine. Not all courses listed here provide ANCC-COA credit, but they are printed for your interest and convenience. For more CNE information, please go to www.anamaine.org.

To obtain information on becoming an ANCC-COA CNE provider, please contact NEMSD.education@gmail.com.

USM/PCE indicates the class is offered through University of Southern Maine/Center for Professional and Continuing Education. For course descriptions, visit http://usm.maine.edu/dop/dps-certificate-programs, http://www.usm.maine.edu/muskie/continuing-education. (The previous website address no longer works.) or call 207-780-5900 or 800-787-0468 for a catalog.

Most USM classes are held at the new Abromson Community Education Center in Portland, conveniently located just off I-295. Free parking nearby.

CCSME indicates class is held by the Co-Occurring Collaborative Serving Maine.

For PESI HealthCare seminars in Maine, visit http://www.pesihealthcare.com.

Visit the ANA-MAINE Calendar of Events at: http://www.anamaine.org/calendar.cfm for more information for additional upcoming events.

Openings for CNE Program Reviewers

Are you passionate about nursing education? Do you have experience in adult learning and nursing education, as well as a baccalaureate or graduate degree in nursing? If so, please consider joining ANA-MAINE and the Northeast Multistate Division as a reviewer on the Continuing Nursing Education Committee. Make use of this wonderful opportunity to facilitate the ongoing education of your peers, and to become involved in your nursing organization. For more information, contact Robin Gilbert at 1-844-636-7376 or NEMSD.education@gmail.com. Details are also on www.anamaine.org/continuing education.

RN-BSN Distance Education

Licensed RNs wishing to complete the BSN degree; exclusively online program of study. University of Maine at Fort Kent. Contact professor Diane Griffin, coordinator. 207-834-8622 or dgriffin@maine.edu.

USM/Online – Certificate Program in Gerontology

(undergraduate credits.) Students may complete the five courses in the program in one year by taking one course in each seven-week session or they may proceed at their own pace. For more information, visit usm.maine.edu/online/online-certificate-program-gerontology, or call 1-207-780-5900 or 1-800-787-0468.

August 2015

14 CCSME/Portland. Psychopharmacology: What You Need to Know Today About Psychiatric Medications Seminar. 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. $189.99 single advanced registration or group rate; $199.99 single after August 20. For additional information, call 1-800-843-7763 or visit http://www.pesihealthcare.com.

September 2015

9 PESI/Portland. Psychopharmacology: What You Need to Know Today About Psychiatric Medications Seminar. 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. $189.99 single advanced registration or group rate; $199.99 single after August 20. For additional information, call 1-800-843-7763 or visit http://www.pesihealthcare.com.

14 CCSME/5 weeks online. Ethical Issues in Clinical Supervision for Co-Occurring Conditions: A five-week online course. 9/14, 7:00 a.m. – 10/17; 12:00 p.m. Fee: $55.00, 10 Contact Hours provided. Registration and information http://www.ccsme.org/Events.htm.

17 PESI/Portland. The Ultimate Hands-On Wound Care Clinical Lab. 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. $189.99 single advanced registration or group rate; $199.99 single after August 28. For additional information, call 1-800-843-7763 or visit http://www.pesihealthcare.com.

23 University of Southern Maine – Abromson Center, Portland. The 6th annual Patient Safety Academy. 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. Fee: $50 general; 25 students. For additional information, call 207-780-5960 or visit http://usm.maine.edu/muskie/psa.

24 PESI/Portland. Preventing Post-Operative Complications. 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. $189.99 single advanced registration or group rate; $199.99 single after September 4. For additional information, call 1-800-843-7763 or visit http://www.pesihealthcare.com.
CONTINUING EDUCATION
CALENDAR FOR MAINE NURSES

October 2015

28 PESI/Portland. Managing Pediatric Crisis: Rapid Assessment and Treatment Strategies. 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. $189.99 single advanced registration or group rate; $199.99 single after September 8. For additional information, call 1-800-843-7763 or visit http://www.pesihealthcare.com.

29 PESI/Portland. Managing Pediatric Crisis: Rapid Assessment and Treatment Strategies. 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. $189.99 single advanced registration or group rate; $199.99 single after September 9. For additional information, call 1-800-843-7763 or visit http://www.pesihealthcare.com.

November 2015

26 CCSME/ Peoples Choice Credit Union, Saco, ME. The Fundamentals of Effective and Ethical Clinical Supervision. OFFERED IN THREE TRACKS, INCLUDING SIX HOURS OF ETHICS. Track A – 5 days: 10/26-10/30, 30 contact hours, $250.00; Track B – 10/26 & 10/30, 12 contact hours, $100.00: Track C – 10/29, 6 contact hours, $50.00 Registration and information http://www.ccsmc.org/events.htm.

28 PESI/Spectacular Event Center, Bangor. MOMMY, I Don’t Feel So Good! Pediatric Problems, Emergencies & Lab Interpretation Seminar. 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. $199.99 single advanced registration or group rate; $219.99 single after October 8. For additional information, call 1-800-843-7763 or visit http://www.pesihealthcare.com.

11 PESI/Portland. High Risk Obstetrics: Current Trends, Treatments & Issues Seminar. 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. $199.99 single advanced registration or group rate; $219.99 single after October 22. For additional information, call 1-800-843-7763 or visit http://www.pesihealthcare.com.

12 PESI/Hilton Garden Inn, Bangor. Mastering Physical Assessment Skills: Identify Cardiac, Respiratory and Neurological Disorders Seminar. 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. $199.99 single advanced registration or group rate; $219.99 single after October 23. For additional information, call 1-800-843-7763 or visit http://www.pesihealthcare.com.

Nurses Leading in Turbulent Times
OMNE Annual Meeting | September 24th & 25th
The Hilton Garden Inn, Freeport, ME

Sadly, our country is experiencing violence in both expected and unexpected settings. The crime rate in Maine is relatively low compared to other states in the Union. Yet, we cannot be complacent. When we are in a prepared profession we can assess, intervene, present, respond and assist in helping communities cope, recover and heal, better, faster, stronger.

Attendees can expect to learn operational assessment skills and strategies for managing the propensity for violence in their respective communities and organizations.

OMNE Maine Nurse Leaders are pleased to partner with colleagues from ANA-MAINE in planning and hosting this program. Attendees are invited to attend the OMNE business meeting at 4 p.m. immediately following the OMNE program.

For more information or to register, visit www.omne.org

RN Opportunities in Maine

Whether you thrive in a large urban medical environment or prefer the warmth and character of a community hospital, MaineHealth has the ideal setting for your nursing career with opportunities throughout southern, central, and western Maine.

MaineHealth is ranked among America’s top 100 integrated healthcare networks. When you join the MaineHealth system you will receive the opportunities, resources, tuition assistance, and support you need to help advance your career to the next level.

So come to MaineHealth where you can have your dream clinical career while living and working in a location that provides unsurpassed natural beauty, safe communities, excellent schools, and four-season outdoor recreation.

Visit us at www.careersatmainehealth.org to learn more and apply today.

Like MaineHealth Careers on Facebook to learn more about upcoming career events.

Visit us at www.careersatmainehealth.org to learn more and apply today.

Like MaineHealth Careers on Facebook to learn more about upcoming career events.

Like MaineHealth Careers on Facebook to learn more about upcoming career events.
Critical Care Nursing in Nepal

Joe Niemczura, RN, MS

Introduction: Joe Niemczura, RN, MS was the first President of ANA-Maine, 2001-2005. He still pays his ANA dues in Maine, though he teaches nursing in Hawaii. For 2014-2015 he was on leave from his faculty job to pursue a special project, teaching critical care nursing in Nepal, the Himalayan country between India and China. You can read his blog www.joeniemczura.wordpress.com.

The plain truth is, in the Nepali educational system, young nurses and docs are not taught BLS, ACLS, PALS, TNCC or ATLS. They have rapidly expanded nursing and medical education, but the system is task-oriented and they don’t know how to teach assessment skills such as lung auscultation. They have invested in heart monitors but the ICU nurses can’t interpret the ECG rhythm. There’s no such thing as a rapid response team. That’s what prompted me to start CCNEPal in 2011.

CCNEPal is a sort of one-man NGO that focuses on one thing: teaching emergency response skills. When I got my Nepali RN license I learned that I could legally teach this course in Nepal, and so I said, “why not?” The nurses in Nepal are highly motivated and thirsty for any skill that will help them do a better job. Since 2011, I’ve done 70 sessions of a two- or three-day course based on the American Heart Association BLS and ACLS protocols. It’s adapted for Nepal to fit the equipment they use and the drug doses, also to fit with Nepal culture. I've studied the pedagogy of South Asia and used it to get a “wow” from the people who enroll. The interactive teaching style is very new to them. My most important source of students is word-of-mouth.

I travel outside the Kathmandu Valley about fifty percent of the time. Nepal is more than just Kathmandu, but the travel is challenging. The Himalaya is sparsely populated so I don’t go there. People are amazed that I go to the southern part of the country where it’s hot, flat and very humid. But half the country’s population lives there. Some of the cities have 250,000 people - the size of Portland.

I was travelling at the time of the first earthquake, hundreds of miles from the epicenter. It was still quite strong, and I knew that Kathmandu had to have been seriously affected. The aftershocks continued for days, causing a sort of terrorized reaction. I don’t think I’d ever seen that kind of fear that takes over a large group before.

The truth of any disaster is that after the initial event there is a sort of slo-mo recovery phase. Maybe the winter storms or hurricanes of New England don’t seem so exotic as an earthquake in the Himalayas, but I think that Mainers have a sort of resilience. That sense of “we’re all in this together” is what I recall from Maine. In Nepal, there was a lot of homegrown initiative in the weeks after the quake. The Nepal government is widely viewed as weak and corrupt; but I think that Mainers have a sort of resilience. That’s what prompted me to start CCNEPal in 2011.

I did not rush to Kathmandu when the earthquake hit. I was invited to join two different relief missions to Sindhupalchowk (the hardest hit), and would have been among the first to get there. This would have been intensely physical, and I had to decline, since an old knee injury from high school sports has been acting up. I didn't want to be a burden on the rest of the team, scrambling up and down hills. I continued to teach my scheduled course sessions - after all, the need for the skills will continue for years. About 2,130 nurses and doctors have taken the course, with 800 of them in Kathmandu. I got messages back from students saying they were thinking of me in the emergency rooms of the Kathmandu hospitals, as they used the things I taught to save lives the day of the quake. I cried when the first young doctor told me that. That’s the biggest satisfaction for any teacher.

Niemczura has written two books about Nepal. The first was “The Hospital at the End of the World” in 2007. The second, “The Sacrament of the Goddess” was published in 2014.

“I live with one foot in Nepal and the other in USA,” he said. “The reader will get an idea of what it’s like to do bedside care at a hospital in a Low Income Country. I think American nurses could all benefit from this. The second book is fiction - a novel - with the idea of engaging the reader in the drama and feel of being there. Medical details in it paint an accurate picture.”
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Agnes E Flaherty Leadership and Sisters Consuela White Awards

Nominations are open for the Agnes E. Flaherty Leadership Award and the Sisters Consuela White Spirit of Nursing Award in both categories listed below. Nominations close September 1, 2015. Award winners will be honored at our ANA-MAINE Conference Awards Luncheon on December 4, 2015. Please mark your calendar in the event your nominee is chosen.

A blind review and selection of the nominee is assured by Award Committee Cooperative Exchange with our colleagues in the Northeast Multistate Division. Winners are notified prior to the Awards event. Each award recipient may ask two guests to attend the awards luncheon free of charge. Do you have questions? Please E-mail the Awards Committee at awards@anamaine.org.

There are two categories of practice for each award. Indicate the category of choice in the online nomination form (found at www.anamaine.org/awards) and upload your descriptive document for expedient electronic submission.

- The first category includes administrators, educators, public office holders or nominee, and health care providers in advanced practice role.
- The second category includes staff nurses in any setting: schools, community. Long term care, acute care, home care etc. Preceptors for students would fall into this category.

The Agnes E. Flaherty Leadership Award: Defining qualities include the ability to:
- Develop a work environment that fosters autonomy and creativity.
- Value and empower others.
- Affirm the uniqueness of each individual.
- Motivate others to work toward a common goal.
- Identify common values.
- Be committed to the profession and society.
- Think long-term and be visionary.
- Be politically astute.
- Think in terms of change and renewal.

The Sisters Consuela White Spirit of Nursing Award: Defining qualities include the ability to:
- Listen on a deep level and to truly understand.
- Keep an open mind and hear without judgment.
- Deal with ambiguity, paradoxes and complex issues.
- Believe that honestly sharing critical challenges with all parties and asking for their input is more important than personally providing solutions.
- Be clear on goals and good at pointing the direction without giving orders.
- Use foresight and intuition.
- See things whole and sensing relationships and connections.

Online submissions at www.anamaine.org/awards.

Deadline: September 1, 2015

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A New York Times Review states that “for Tyler, the quality of mercy is anything but strained. By her own admission, she’s a chronicler of sad failures and unhappy marriages. In novel after novel she predisposes her characters to crave the unattainable — parental love (in both directions), a sense of belonging (among your own and in the world), forgiveness, amnesty from familial wrongdoing, the comfort of home. And yet she’s a comic novelist, and a wise one. The calamities she depicts are minor, after all, and her characters aren’t the twisted, fearsome ones of much American fiction. Her take on her crazies and misfits seems to line up with that of Abby. (The mother in the novel)…who concludes, “I really believe that most people who seem scary are just sad.” (February 16, 2013).”

I think that about sums up exactly what Tyler offers us that is unique to today’s fiction. A good read and one to which most of us can relate with characters that are familiar and frequently endearing.

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To apply, submit cover letter, resume and transcripts to: Brittany Haines, Human Resources Specialist PO Box 1018 Caribou, ME 04736 Fax: (207) 492-3181 Email: bhaines@amhc.org AMHC is proud to be an Equal Opportunity Employer
Bettie Kettell Memorial Service

A Memorial Service for Bettie Kettell was held on June 27th at 10AM at the First Congregational Church of Durham, Maine.

Maine nurses lost an environmental public health leader when Bettie Kettell, R.N., died on June 7, 2015. ANA Maine joins the First Congregational Church of Durham, Maine (UCC), who were saddened to announce that Bettie Kettell, passed away. Bettie was attending the Woman At the Well session at Pilgrim Lodge, in West Gardiner ME. She jumped in the lake and upon leaving the water was overtaken with respiratory distress. The staff responded as trained, though a little later Bettie was sadly pronounced dead at Maine General Hospital, in Augusta. Our hearts go out to her husband, Charles, her adult children Herb and Marraine, and to Bettie’s extended family and friends. Bettie was an active and beloved member of the UCC Maine Conference and had a deep love of the Pilgrim Lodge. Her faith community asks that we keep Bettie’s family in our prayers, along with everyone who knew her and especially those who attended Pilgrim Lodge with Bettie over the years.

This notice was posted at the link http://myemail.constantcontact.com/In-Sympathy.html?soid=1109342362154&aid=OMSJUm3PnnY.

Thank you Bettie Kettell for being a dedicated advocate for nursing and educating us about the importance of protecting our environment from chemical pollution.
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Here’s a true story!
A nurse was named in a lawsuit after a 29-year-old male was seen at an urgent care clinic. He died from one of the most dangerous forms of meningitis.
Case summary:
- The nurse attended to the patient and determined that he needed to go to the ER within 5 minutes of the patient arriving at the clinic.
- The patient’s girlfriend took him directly to the hospital, where he was flagged but showed no fever and normal blood pressure. The patient began showing signs of delirium nearly two hours later, and an hour afterwards began to be treated for meningitis even though a diagnosis had not been confirmed.
- The patient was definitively diagnosed with Neospora meningitis, Group B, the next day. He died less than 24 hours after arriving at the urgent care clinic.

The nurse was named, along with the clinic where she worked, the physician working at the clinic, the ER physician and the hospital in a lawsuit brought by the parents of the patient. The parents alleged that if the nurse would have flagged the patient and the physician would have seen him, they would have recognized the symptoms of meningitis and administered antibiotics in time to save his life.

Defense experts supported the actions of the nurse in referring the patient to the ER immediately. Discovery also confirmed that the patient had been ill for several days before seeking help, and the defense concluded that no treatment could have reversed the course of the illness.

Despite this, her defense costs topped $125,000.

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