From the Desk of the CNF President

THE TIME HAS COME…. THE TIME IS NOW!

Sara Jarrett
President – Colorado Nurses Foundation

Colorado Nurses Association President...

What is the Sunset Review of the Nurse Practice Act?

Donna Strickland, MS, RN, PMHNCNS-BC, CSP
President

Every 10 years the Nurse Practice Act goes through a “Sunset Review.” Sunset Review is intentionally designed for periodic review of necessity for laws and funding of state agencies. The nurse practice act and State Board of Nursing is essential to assure full scope of practice authority for all RN’s in Colorado as well as assuring public safety in services provided by licensed RNs and LPNs. Please see the previous article in the May 2018 edition of Colorado Nurse for details related to components of the Nurse Practice Act.

Sunset Reviews serve as a factor of Legislative oversight of the State agencies. In Colorado, a sunset review will generally question the need for regulation to protect the public. Once regulation is determined to be needed, the sunset review will look for the least restrictive level of regulation consistent with the public interest.

Who Conducts a Sunset Review?
The Colorado Office of Professional Review and Regulatory Reform (COPRRR) is charged with producing a report of its broad stakeholder based feedback, findings and recommendations prior to the State Board of Nursing’s sunset. Reviews are conducted according to a statutory review schedule and according to statutory criteria. The objective is to determine if such regulation by the State Board of Nursing and the Nurse Practice Act should continue with or without modifications or amendments to the agency’s governing statutes.

Providing Input on a Sunset Review
The COPRRR staff spend one year, beginning in October of 2018, evaluating the performance of the State Board of Nursing which governs/enforces the Nurse Practice Act. The COPRRR staff consider and refine their report throughout the year and submit the final report to the COPRRR Board of Directors. It is then presented to the State Board of Nursing for their comments and input.

Professional Citizenship

This column has addressed numerous professional issues in recent months and years. The Institute of Medicine (IOM) report (2010) continues to frame the profession’s efforts to keep relevant change on the horizon. We have seen an increase in the number of BSN prepared nurses supporting the goal of 80% of practicing nurses having this credential. Nursing and health care related Institutional Boards now have nurses filling positions and contributing to the greater good of these entities. Leadership preparation of nurses has also increased and supported the profession to be more involved and present in the greater health care community.

This IOM report has also led to an ongoing discussion related to changes in scopes of practice, encouraging opportunities for nurses to practice to the full scope of their license and educational preparation. We often see nurses assuming active roles in bringing recommendations for change in our health care system. Despite the IOM report and recommendations, there remains some critical shortages. The recommendation to increase the number of nurses with doctoral preparation is critical to the ongoing success of nursing education. Primary care shortages also exist and the need for such providers grows.

As we move closer to the ten year anniversary of the IOM report, there is still much work to be done. It is my belief that we must increase our understanding and development of the role of the “Citizen of the Profession” if we are to successfully continue our efforts to achieve the IOM goals and prepare appropriately for the preferred future of nursing in the 21st century. A “Citizen of the Profession” is an individual engaged and committed to promoting the profession with activities that show value as well stewardship and advocacy for nurses and consumers of health care.
CNF President continued from page 1

To that end, the Colorado Nurses Foundation Board of Directors approved development of an initiative in our state that will support the development of the role of Citizen of the Profession through educational opportunities and community activities. I hope to announce in the next edition of the Colorado Nurse details related to the Citizen of the Profession initiative in our state.

Indeed, the time has come and it is now! It is time to implement this important educational initiative in our state – Colorado’s Citizens of the Nursing Profession.

Correction to May Issue

The author of the CDPHE Medical Marijuana – Information for providers article, Ken Gershman, MD, MPH, was inadvertently left off the article.

What is CNA’s Process for Gathering Input to Recommend to COPRRR?

CNA has already begun to develop Coalitions of various nursing specialty groups, and coalitions of stakeholders to solicit their input regarding Sunset. Some of the stakeholders include caucuses such as, partisan, rural/urban, healthcare formal and informal leaders, nursing legal and regulatory experts, nursing content experts, friends of nursing and other interested parties.

CNA’s Government Affairs & Public Policy (GAPP) will review and make final recommendations to CNA Board of Directors for final approval of CNA’s priorities. CNA lobbyist collaborates with CNA Executive Director and in partnership with CNA President assures that maximum alignment is reached between internal CNA members and the broader coalitions recommendations are achievable legislative changes. Those recommendations will also come to GAPP Committee for review and comment.

CNA invites all interested stakeholders to contact us with feedback. Content Experts will be important throughout the process of preparation for and completion of the Sunset Review Stakeholder process in preparation for the January 2020 Legislative Session.

CNF President continued from page 1

Practice Act. COPRRR will conduct multiple stakeholder meetings that are designed to provide an opportunity for COPRRR staff to discuss its recommendations, and for the public to comment on the agency operations and policies that may be creating unintended barriers or competitive forces influencing the safe practice of nursing in Colorado. Anyone can contact COPRRR to provide input on the sunset review. This report will propose needed changes in law and/or management of the Nurse Practice Act. It is important that CNA assure a strong Voice for Nursing – Stronger Together!

This COPRRR report is widely distributed and advances to the Office of Legislative Legal Services October 2019, where a bill is produced with the essential recommendations and the legislative process proceeds. The legislative process includes introduction of the legislation, public hearings, and policies that may be creating unintended barriers for the public to comment on the agency operations and policies that may be creating unintended barriers.

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HIPAA Violations Among Nursing Students: Teaching Moment or Terminal Mistake

Annette Cannon, PhD, MA, RN, MSN

Nursing students are subject to Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) requirements and have a professional and ethical obligation to maintain patient confidentiality. Nursing education programs, nursing faculty, clinical agencies, nursing students, and nursing preceptors all play important roles in compliance with the HIPAA Privacy Rule. Because of the complexity of issues involved in nursing clinical education, HIPAA violations committed by nursing students during the course of their education must be carefully considered.

Despite the fact that nursing students are rarely involved in the electronic transmission of Personal Health Information (PHI), nursing students are held to the same standard as licensed nurses who frequently transmit transactions containing PHI. Ultimately, nursing students must comply with the general principle of the Privacy Rule. In nursing education, a HIPAA violation made by a nursing student could result in a variety of disciplinary actions including termination but is rarely discussed in nursing literature.

This case study involving one nursing education program’s experience with a HIPAA violation illustrates how one nursing college dealt with a student’s HIPAA violation. HIPAA violations committed by students within healthcare education programs are under-studied and under-discussed. HIPAA violations made by nursing students are complex because they occur during the learning process and can involve a variety of variables including clinical facility responsibilities, dual roles of nursing student and clinical facility employee, the appropriateness of patient assignments, the role and accountability of clinical facility nurse educators, nursing unit culture, and staff nurse role modeling. Findings reveal that nursing students are at a higher vulnerability than previously known for HIPAA violations. This case study serves as an example of how HIPAA violations are complex because they occur during the learning process and can involve a variety of variables including clinical facility responsibilities, dual roles of nursing student and clinical facility employee, the appropriateness of patient assignments, the role and accountability of clinical facility nurse educators, nursing unit culture, and staff nurse role modeling. Findings reveal that nursing students are at a higher vulnerability than previously known for HIPAA violations.

For more information:

Executive Director’s Column

Colleen Casper, DNP, RN, MS

Congratulations Coloradoans – estimates are that greater than 30% of registered voters participated in the June 2018 primaries! Now it’s time to get familiar with candidates for the November elections. Colorado Nurses Association (CNA) has two members who are running for elected office, Annette Cannon (DNA 20) is running for Jefferson County Coroner and Kyle Mullica (DNA 23) is running for the State Representative position of House District 34. Each have a website under their names so take some time to get to know them both. Nurse for Political Action in Colorado (N-PAC) are aggressively working on fundraising and candidate endorsements for the upcoming November elections. We welcome your input. For more information and upcoming events, please contact Laura Mehringer at lmehringer@gmail.com.

CNA, with the support of the Emerging Leaders Fund of Colorado Nurses Foundation, had five attendees at the annual ANA Membership Assembly. The meetings began on Thursday at 7am with a breakfast overview for the annual ANA Hill Day. After the information session, CNA members were scheduled to meet with all of Colorado’s elected officials at the national level. Some or all of us met with the staff of Senators Gardner and Bennet, as well as the staff of Congressional Representatives Buck, Coffman, DeGette, Lamborn, Perlmutter, Polis, and, Tipton. This activity is definitely a highlight of the week running the hallways of the Senate and Congressional offices. We had a full agenda with specific requests for a yes vote on H.R. 6, a revised bill expanding Medication Assisted Therapy (M.A.T.), giving authority to all APRNs, including Certified Nurse Midwives and Clinical Nurse Specialist. This will greatly enhance access to treatment in all of Colorado. Thank you. We are now watching the Senate action on the same bill.

Healthcare continues to be central to State and Federal budget conversations, as well as representative of a multitude of socio-political debates about rights, privilege, and authority. Join the conversation at CNA and influence the community of nursing’s voice on these matters.

Remember “Nurses Vote!”

Save the Date

September 15, 2018
Radisson Hotel Denver Southeast
I-25 & Parker Rd
7:30 pm – 4:30 pm

Setting the Stage for Successful Sunset Review: Colorado Nurse Practice Act Application for approval to award ANCC approved contact hours is in process.
The potential impact of the over 80,000 nurses in Colorado is immense. However, the voice of nursing that is driven by expertise and a professional code of ethics that guides us to be patient advocates, is underutilized. It can be said that everything we do as nurses is in some way related to a health care policy. The question to ask yourself is, “Do I like these policies? Are they beneficial to my patients?” If not, the next question to ask yourself is, “What can I do to influence policy change?” I suspect we are all proactive in the next question to ask yourself is, “What can I do to advocate for and influence health care policy?” The Colorado Nurses Association has created an easy to use venue to share your thoughts and expertise regarding policy. The Government Affairs and Policy forum on the CNA website is available for nurses from across the state, that belong to CNA, to contribute. These contributions help to inform positions that CNA takes on current issues and bills that will be supported. In 2018, we had 319 postings came from across the state and these membe...
By: Mike Spence

The Pueblo Chieftain

When Olga Ramirez looks back on her life, it takes a while. There are so many ups, downs, twists and turns. Ramirez acknowledges she has packed a lot in her 46 years.

“I always thought I had a good story,” Ramirez said. “But I didn’t know if it would be a comic book or a novel.”

By any measure, Ramirez’s life is a story of triumph.

Ramirez grew up on Pueblo’s East Side, one of five children in a broken family. Her mother battled mental illness and drug addiction. Her father was out of the picture. The children were sent to live with their grandmother, who was an alcoholic.

“There was no parental support growing up,” Ramirez said.

Left to their own devices, Ramirez and her siblings were often in trouble with the police.

Despite the turmoil created by her home life, Ramirez found a way to break free from her troubled past and become a highly successful — and sought after — wound care nurse.

A natural

Ramirez took to nursing quickly. She works for The Chieftain, which has around 50 patients per week, double the full-time load.

“I’ve never had a wound that I didn’t heal,” Ramirez said.

She’s been so successful that Kindred has asked her to become a Certified Wound Ostomy Continence Nurse. Ramirez recently earned her certification and is the only CWOCN in the home health care field in Pueblo. There are only about 2,800 CWOCNs nationwide.

Ramirez loves what she does. She enjoys the interaction with her patients. The feeling is mutual.

Ramirez is more than a caregiver to her patients. She is a ray of hope.

Message for others

Ramirez is eager to share her message with youngsters who face situations similar to hers.

“I don’t have much sympathy for those who say they were abused as a youth or say they had such a hard upbringing and use that as an excuse to steal or whatever,” Ramirez said. “You make your own choices. You don’t have control over the situation you were born into or how rich or poor your family is. But you have control over the decisions you make.”

Ramirez said it would have been easy for her to make excuses. Instead she owned up to her past.

“I made bad decisions I made bad choices,” she said. “I don’t regret anything. I think that’s why I’m good at what I do. I can find common ground with anybody.”

Ramirez knows now that she was stronger than she thought she could be.

“One of the casualties of being homeless was school. Ramirez attended Ridley and East before she was transferred to Centennial, then back to East. She never graduated.

“The constant in Ramirez’s life was work. She knew she needed a job to pay for her food and clothes. She was a hard worker. As a result of her hard work, Ramirez was promoted to district manager at The Chieftain when she was 19 and put in charge of her old stomping grounds, the East Side.

Three years later, she decided to move to Denver and became a district manager for the Denver Post.

Taking inventory

Ramirez took a look at her life and discovered she was her own worst enemy.

“There were a lot of events that happened that made me think nursing was the path for me,” Ramirez said.

Once, while swimming with friends at Lake Pueblo, Ramirez noticed a man was drowning. She swam out to him, brought him to shore and applied CPR.

Yet another time, while living in Denver, she was first on the scene when a young boy was hit by a bus.

“I think those things were a message from up above,” Ramirez said. “Maybe I was a slow learner.”

Even with those types of hints, Ramirez was nervous when she walked into her first nursing class.

“The first day at USC (now Colorado State University-Pueblo), they were talking and I thought, ‘God, am I smart enough to do this? Can I do this?’”

The answers came quickly.

“I passed. I made the Dean’s List,” Ramirez said.

It took Ramirez seven years of taking classes, first at Pueblo Community College and then at USC, to earn her degree because she had to work while going to school.

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The advice she would give to those youngsters is to “take responsibility for their actions.”

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DENVER – Nominations for the 2019 Colorado Nightingale Luminaries will be accepted beginning Oct. 1, 2018, and continuing in most parts of the state through Jan. 15, 2019. As in the recent past, nominations are accepted electronically at the Colorado Nurses Foundation website at www.coloradonursesfoundation.com. The foundation has operated and administered the statewide awards since 1999. The awards program recognizes nurses in two categories: Nurses in Clinical Practice and Administrators, Educators, Researchers & Non-Traditional Practice Roles. Each category honors Luminaries in one of three areas: Advocacy, Leadership, and Innovation.

Up to 60 Luminaries are selected among 10 regions, and they go on to the state event in metro Denver in May, where 12 are named recipients of the Colorado Nightingale Award, the state’s highest nursing honor. The 2019 awards gala will be Saturday, May 11, at CU Denver South in Parker. The nomination process is as follows:

- Beginning in October and continuing into January, nominators make their luminary nominations; deadlines vary among the Area Health Education Centers and regions so that the most applications may be received in the desired time frame.
- In January and continuing into February, AHEC and regional selection committees choose Nightingale luminaries from among hundreds of nominations.
- In February and continuing into March, the AHECs and regions host regional Nightingale awards ceremonies that draw scores of attendees and nursing supporters to evening banquets or fun-filled celebrations. At approximately the same time, the Statewide Selection Committee meets in Denver each spring to select twelve Nightingale Award recipients from among the 60 annual luminaries.
- The process concludes every May at the conclusion of National Nurses Week.

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Colorado Nightingale Nominations to Open on Oct. 1

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Scholarship Criteria for Awards

Your scholarship application must include and will be rated on the following:

- Professional philosophy and goals
- Dedication to the improvement of patient care in Colorado
- Demonstrated commitment to nursing, and potential for leadership
- Involvement in community and professional organizations
- Grade point average (minimum 3.25 undergraduate, 3.5 graduate) per transcript from most recently completed semester/quarter in current program
- Student accepted into a twelve month accelerated program with transcript from most recently completed semester/quarter in current program
- A Colorado resident committed to practicing nursing in Colorado
- RN with master’s degree in nursing, currently practicing in Colorado and enrolled in a doctoral program, OR
- Student enrolled in accelerated nursing program having completed one quarter or semester, OR
- Student accepted into twelve month accelerated program with transcript from previous degree, OR
- Student in second or third year of a Doctorate Nursing Practice (DNP) program or have completed the first year of a PhD program, All graduate degree students must have continuous minimum enrollment for 6 semester hours.

Applicants must be:

- A Colorado resident committed to practicing nursing in Colorado.
- Accepted as a student in an approved Colorado Nursing Program or in an approved online program.
- A minimum of one semester or quarter of study remaining prior to completing their degree. Students graduating in December 2018 are ineligible to apply for a CNF Scholarship.
- Student in a BSN program or accepted as a student in a twelve month accelerated BSN program commencing in January 2019.

Undergraduate applicants must have a 3.25 grade point average minimum and graduate student applicants must have a 3.5 grade point average minimum, with one of the following student statuses:

- Student in second year of nursing studies in an associate degree in nursing program, OR
- Junior or Senior level BSN undergraduate student, OR
- RN enrolled in a baccalaureate or higher degree nursing program in a school of nursing, OR
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Scholarship Applications Open

The application will be linked from the foundation website at www.coloradonursesfoundation.com.

For more information go to:
Colorado Nurses Association www.coloradonurses.org

Education Links:
Please note Calendar of Scheduled Zoom Sessions with Colorado Nurse Peer Review Leader Connie Pardee, PhD, RN

CNF Nursing Student Scholarship Applications Open Sept. 1

Denver – The Colorado Nurses Foundation announces that applications for scholarships for nursing students will open on Sept. 1, 2018, and close at the end of October. The scholarships will be awarded for the first semester or quarter of 2019. The application will be linked from the foundation website at www.coloradonursesfoundation.com.

Applicants must be:

- A Colorado resident committed to practicing nursing in Colorado.
- Accepted as a student in an approved Colorado Nursing Program or in an approved online program.
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Join Our Distinguished Nursing Teams Today!

Good Samaritan Medical Center - Lafayette, Colorado
Lutheran Hospice Center - Wheat Ridge, Colorado
Lutheran Medical Center - Wheat Ridge, Colorado
Platte Valley Medical Center - Brighton, Colorado
Saint Joseph Hospital - Denver, Colorado
SCL Home Health - Denver Metro, Colorado
St. Mary’s Medical Center - Grand Junction, Colorado

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At SCL Health, we believe that a career in healthcare is part of your life’s calling. Our nursing associates are truly drawn to patient care, passionately serving our patients and supporting/educating them and their families along the way.

We offer a wide variety of work environments to match your nursing passions, including a mix of inpatient, outpatient, home health and hospice opportunities. We are dedicated to improving the health of the people and communities we serve while also providing our associates with a fast-paced and exceptional work environment.

For more information, please visit jobs.sclhealth.org or contact:

Emily Smits
303-813-5301
Emily.Smits@ sclhs.net

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Leadership in a project designed to develop highly functioning and impactful inter-professional teams at Federally Qualified Health Centers in Durango nominated for leadership in addressing the issue of Emergency Nursing Lopez. She is nominated for creating an innovative method of orientation and mentoring of new faculty members.

Laura Hinze is an educator with UC Health Life Line Critical Transport nominated for innovation in developing interactive simulations for training Life Line Employees.

Brian Hoffner is Assistant Professor, Lead Advanced Practice Provider, and Nurse Practitioner in Medical Oncology at University of Colorado School of Medicine. She is nominated for her leadership in providing patients with same-day access to clinical services for symptom management relating to their cancer treatment utilizing a Nursing Practitioner led model.

Laura Johnson is Associate Chief Nurse, Inpatient Medical-Surgical and Critical Care, Directors of Nursing, Veterans Health Care System. She is nominated for innovation in instituting a protocol for identifying veterans at risk for suicide related to chronic pain.

Karen Kaley is Specialty Sharing Coordinator at St. Joseph's Hospital in Denver. She is nominated for advocating for newborns to reduce the need for antibiotics and increase the time new mothers spend with their babies.

Kimberly Kassab is a Charge Nurse at Porter Adventist Hospital in Denver. She is nominated for leadership in implementing a process for nursing assessment of the agitated patient and for establishing a team for consultation and intervention in the management of these patients.

April Kendall is a Senior Manager at East Morgan County Hospital. She is nominated for her advocacy in the development of a program to provide information and education specific to Women’s Healthcare needs.

Sylvia Kurko is Manager of Education Resources at Penrose-St. Francis Health Services. She is nominated for advocating for Penrose-St. Francis associates and nursing students to obtain needed training in the EPIC electronic medical record system.

Sarah Lancaster is Clinical Nurse Manager in the Emergency Department at St. Mary’s Hospital in Grand Junction. He is nominated for leadership in partnering with the cardiac group to ensure that ST Elevation Myocardial Infarction metrics were met.

Carmencita Lorenzo Lewis is an ICU Registered Nurse at Porter Adventist Hospital. She is nominated for innovation in creating a nurse driven evidence-based intervention to mitigate alarm fatigue in the critical care unit.

Kristen Lynch is a Certified Nurse Midwife at East Morgan County Hospital in Brush, Colorado. She is nominated for leadership in bringing the Provider In Triage process a reality at St. Mary’s Hospital to improve patient care in the Emergency Department.

Kathleen Martinez is Clinical Policy Oversight Manager and Interim Director of Nursing Innovations and Outcomes at Children’s Hospital Colorado. She is nominated for innovation in developing policy and procedure to line management system to make clinical policies easy to find, easy to read and easy to follow.

Jodi Olson is not able to be with us tonight. Jodi is Structural Heart and Valve Disease Program Coordinator at the Cardiovascular Institute of North Colorado / Banner Medical Group Western.
Colorado Nurses Foundation President Sara Jarrett welcomed guests to the 33rd Annual edition of the Nightingale Luminary Awards at a new venue, University of Colorado South Denver in Parker and with Centura Health as the presenting sponsor.

2018’s Nightingale Award recipients took the stage for a last round of applause. Honored were Kimberly Kassab, Porter Hospital; Kate Volle, Penrose-St. Francis Health Systems; Andrea Burch, Lutheran Medical Center; Deborah Center, Colorado Center for Nursing Excellence; Karen Kaley, SCL Health Saint Joseph Hospital; Kim Powell, Denver Health; Kim Powell, Chaffee County Public Health; Victoria Owens, Swedish Medical Center; Gennifer Suhr, Children’s Hospital Colorado; Kelly Tuohy, University of Colorado Hospital; Lauren Cittadino, Swedish Medical Center; and Brandi Schimpf, UC Health, University of Colorado.

The master of ceremonies, Dan Frantz, was the first man to be awarded the Florence Nightingale Award for Excellence in Nursing, in 1993. Frantz works for the North Range Behavioral Health’s Medical Team and serves as conductor of the Greeley Chamber Orchestra.

The night’s first Nightingale Award recipient, Kimberly Kassab, looks down upon the bronze of Florence Nightingale as guest presenter Sarah Adams from Aims Community College looks on. Kassab, one of two recipients for Leadership in Clinical Practice, is a Charge Nurse in Adult Psychiatric Unit and Leader of the Behavioral Emergency Response Team at Porter Hospital in Denver.

Guests crowded the Nightingale silent auction tables, which shared space with CU’s wildlife art gallery.

Region. She is nominated for leadership in creation of the Valve Clinic and the Structural Heart and Valve Disease Program which increased the options for care for patients in need of advance catheter-based therapy in Northern Colorado.

Kristen Oster is a Perioperative Clinical Nurse Specialist at Porter Adventist Hospital. She is nominated for leadership in reducing pressure injury occurrences in the head and neck surgical population.

Victoria Owens is Vice President, Emergency Services, Swedish Medical Center, nominated for advocating for emergency department patients by working to change pain management and narcotic prescribing practices in the ED.

Christine Peyton is Clinical Practice Specialist at Children’s Hospital Colorado. She is nominated for advocating for Pediatric and Young Adult Congenital Heart patients in addressing their palliative care needs.

Kim Powell is a Family Nurse Practitioner in the HIV Primary Care Clinic at Denver Health. She is nominated for advocating for transgender individuals by developing a training curriculum to improve transgender care and initiating a transgender primary care practice.

Vivian Rodriguez is a Registered Nurse in Obstetrics at SLV Health in Alamosa. She is nominated for advocating for expectant parents by teaching childbirth education classes as a volunteer community service to reduce anxiety and improve the birthing experience.

Brandi Schimpf is Mobile Stroke Program Manager at University of Colorado Hospital nominated for creating an innovative program to decrease time from onset of stroke symptoms to treatment by bringing advanced technology directly to the patient.

Kierra Shaffer is Clinical Nurse Manager, Senior Behavioral Health, at Lutheran Medical Center. She is nominated for her advocacy of aging behavioral health patients, including those who have been incarcerated and have either probation or pending parole.

Mary Shry is Case Management Supervisor at Mercy Regional Medical Center in Durango. She is nominated for her advocacy in assisting an auto accident victim and his family with a difficult situation.

Ginnette Sullivan is an Education Coordinator at Children’s Hospital. She is nominated for innovation in using technology to teach utilization of nasal midazolam for seizure intervention to health care professionals in rural areas.

Charee Taccogno is Chief, Utilization Management, US Air Force Academy. She is nominated for leadership in improving access to patient care by partnering with clinic staff, solving problems, and re-engineering processes for patient referrals.

Brenda Tousley is Senior House Manager at Banner Fort Collins Medical Center. She is nominated for leadership in improving mortality associated with sepsis and ensuring that national standards are being met.

Kelly Tuohy is a Charge Nurse at University of Colorado Hospital in Aurora. She is nominated for innovation in implementing acute stress disorder and post-traumatic stress disorder screening for Burn Center patients, allowing for early identification and treatment.

Deborah U-Ren is a Registered Nurse in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at St. Mary’s Hospital and Medical Center in Grand Junction. She is nominated for advocating for minimizing antibiotic use in newborns with the goal of reducing unnecessary NICU admissions and reducing the separation of infants and mothers.

Kate Volle is a Critical Care RN at Penrose St. Francis Health Services in Colorado Springs. She is nominated for leadership in creating an evidence-based program to improve clinical outcomes for intensive care patients by increasing patient mobility.

Shelly Weber is a Staff Nurse at St. Joseph Hospital in Denver. She is nominated for innovation in reducing Central Line Blood Stream Infections through creation of an improved central line dressing kit and instructional video and by ensuring competency certification for bedside nurses.

Stephanie Lee Wong is a Clinical RN Level III at UC Health in Aurora. She is nominated for her leadership in unifying seven policies related to epidural use into a single policy, thereby decreasing variability in practice and improving compliance with evidence-based standards.

Nadia Yanez is a Nurse Manager at Valley Wide Health Systems in Alamosa. She is nominated for leadership in improving tobacco cessation rates among the patients at Cesar Chavez Family Medical Center.

Linda Young is Director of Clinical Services at Mercy Regional Medical Center in Durango nominated for leadership in obtaining equipment and providing education to improve the care of morbidity obese patients and to reduce injuries to staff caring for these patients.
Restructuring Proposals Membership Assembly 2018

Mary Ciambelli, PhD, PMHCNS-BC, RN

Active members of the Colorado Nurses Association are aware that the Board of Directors (BOD) have been seeking input from leaders and members of the Association for the last three years about the effectiveness of our current structure. Committees of the BOD have sent electronic surveys, attended membership meetings, had virtual meetings, made phone calls and sent countless e-mails to gather input. Our current organization (CNA) has three large geographical regions that contain our geographical districts (DNAs). In addition to geographical districts, we currently have two special interest groups (SIGS) for advanced practice registered nurses. In addition to the DNAs and SIGs we have the following committees: Finance; Membership and Marketing; Government Affairs and Public Policy (GAPP); Awards; Bylaws; CE Advisory Committee and the Nominations and Elections Committee.

The Bylaws Chair Carol O’Meara will be presenting two different bylaws proposals at the September 15, 2018 Membership Assembly regarding re-structuring the Association. All members in good standing at the Assembly will be voting on these proposals. If neither proposal passes, the current structure will remain in place. The rationale for proposing re-structuring includes: 1. Modernize the structure recognizing population changes; 2. Remove barriers to membership engagement in the rural, frontier and resort areas of the state; and, 3. Provide additional leadership opportunities to members throughout the state.

The actual proposals will be posted as per the bylaws prior to the Membership Assembly and will be available to members only on the coloradonurses.org website. Both proposals involve changing the regions (one eliminates regions and one proposes more of them). Both proposals also involve changing some of the DNA boundaries to be more geographically logical. For example, Summit County is currently in DNA 20 which is on the other side of the Eisenhower Tunnel from the rest of that district. Other examples of illogical district and region sizes and shapes can be found by perusing the current district and region maps on our website.

Neither proposal would decrease the size of the BOD and one of them would increase the current size. Our current bylaws are clear that the Membership Assembly is the body in the association who can change regions. The BOD along with district leadership can agree to re-organize districts. Unfortunately, we currently have several districts without officers which is a challenge for the BOD in terms of making decisions, engaging current members and recruiting new members. We hope to enhance membership engagement, assist us in reaching out to recruit new members and to provide valuable education and mentorship to nursing students, registered nurses and advanced practice registered nurses around this large and geographically diverse state. The Membership Assembly will be held on Saturday September 15, 2018. All current members of the Association are invited, and the BOD urges your active participation in this critical governance decision. We are the Colorado Nurses Association. Many voices, one message. Strong together to advance the profession of nursing and improve health care for all.

NOW HIRING
Perioperative (OR, Pre-Op, PACU) Nurses

Hiring for our Network of Care locations, Colorado Springs new hospital, and Anschutz campus.

Requirements: Bachelor of Science in Nursing and 1 year of periop. experience.

Children’s Hospital Colorado has defined and delivered pediatric healthcare excellence for more than 100 years. Founded in 1908, Children’s Hospital Colorado is a leading pediatric network entirely devoted to the health and well being of children. Continually recognized as one of the nation’s outstanding hospitals by U.S. News & World Report, Children’s Hospital Colorado is known both for its nationally and internationally recognized medical, research and education programs as well as the full spectrum of everyday care for kids throughout Colorado and surrounding states. With more than 1,500 healthcare professionals representing the full spectrum of pediatric specialties, Children’s Hospital Colorado includes its main campus, 16 Children’s Care Centers and more than 400 outreach clinics.

A career at Children's Colorado will challenge you, inspire you, and motivate you to make a difference in the life of a child.

Email resume directly to lisa.vanderkamp@childrenscolorado.org for review.

To access electronic copies of the Colorado Nurse, please visit www.nursingald.com/publications

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Do You Have What You Need To Talk To Your Patients About Marijuana?

The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment created an evidence-based course with everything you need to integrate marijuana discussions and screening into your clinical practice.

Who should take the training?

- Health Care Providers
- Health Educators
- WIC Providers
- Clinic Nurses
- Nurse Family Partnership and PNP Nurses/Educators

Visit Colorado.gov/CDPHE/marijuana-clinical-guidelines to take the 20-minute course and get additional resources, clinical guidelines, patient facts, and more.
Fulfilling a Promise to Transform Healthcare Together: A Call to Action for the Next 15!

According to Albert Einstein, “time flies when you are having fun!” If this is true, we must be having fun in Colorado! It is hard to believe the Colorado Center for Nursing Excellence (The Center) has led initiatives focused on nursing workforce in our state for fifteen years. On May 17, 2018 the Center celebrated our fifteenth year anniversary of fulfilling the promise to transform healthcare and ensure a strong and competent nursing workforce. The heartfelt celebration was held at the Hudson Gardens in Littleton, Colorado with hundreds of stakeholders, partners, and past participants from Center programs. Kathy Malloch, PhD, MBA, RN, FAAN provided an engaging presentation, gracefully and effectively summarizing the key elements of the Center’s work. Together, we celebrated the journey and the tremendous commitment in our state to collaborate.

Remembering Our History: Inviting Guests to the Table – It is All About Collaboration

The idea for the Center began in 2001, when a diverse group of healthcare and community leaders came together to identify actions Colorado could take to address the cyclical and growing shortages of nurses in the state. Led by Joel Edelman (former CEO of Rose Medical Center) and Mary Astine of the Health ONE Alliance (now The Colorado Health Foundation), the group identified the need for an independent organization that could be politically neutral focused on strategies to address the workforce challenges. The result of this collaboration was the creation of the Center in 2003.

From the beginning, the Center’s team invited stakeholders to the table by providing the space as the statewide neutral forum for collaborative problem-solving, as well as serve as an innovative think-tank for the development and delivery of programs to support Colorado’s 65,000 registered nurses and additional 35,000 interprofessional healthcare providers. As a trusted convener, the Center has drawn experts and stakeholders to the table for a variety of conversations, programs focused on making a difference, one individual and organization at a time. The programs at the Center have ranged from pipeline initiatives related to clinical placements and faculty development, to workforce priorities with leadership and interprofessional team development. Programs have crossed the continuum from acute care, long-term care, home care, public health, advanced practice, academia, and community health in an effort to address real-time shortages and workforce concerns. In 2011, the Center created a statewide Action Coalition with co-sponsorship by the Colorado Hospital Association to address the eight recommendations from the Institute of Medicine’s (IOM) Future of Nursing Report. The Coalition continues to identify priorities for action and has made tremendous strides in moving the recommendations forward, and there is more work to be done to ensure the future of Colorado’s nursing workforce.

Our Next Phase of the Journey: A Call to Action for the Next Fifteen

The next phase of the journey is going to require a strong and committed voice from nurses in every role, setting, and location across Colorado. As healthcare continues to change, we cannot do it alone. We invite you join in our work by coming to the table as a participant in our classes or a member of one of our program advisory groups. Your voice and stories can make a difference in the direction we go in the future.

On behalf of the entire Center’s Team, Board of Directors, and Advisory Council, thank you for all the support and collaboration over the last 15 years. We have had an incredible journey together. We are grateful to have collided paths with over 7,200 nurses, 175 healthcare facilities, and 35 schools of nursing that have come to our table for the purpose of achieving our mission and vision of transforming healthcare together. We could not have done any of this work without you and we look forward to the next phase of the journey collaborating with you for years to come! Thank you!

For a copy of the Center’s Fifteen Year Anniversary Report go to: http://www.coloradonursingcenter.org/15th-anniversary-report/.

The eight IOM recommendations include:

1) Remove scope of practice barriers.
2) Expand opportunities for nurses to lead collaborative improvement efforts.
3) Implement nurse residency programs.
4) Increase the proportion of nurses with BSN to 80% by 2020.
5) Double the number of nurses with a doctorate by 2020.
6) Ensure that nurses engage in lifelong learning.
7) Prepare and enable nurses to lead change to advance health.
8) Build an infrastructure to collection and analyze interprofessional healthcare workforce data.

In addition to these recommendations, the Center has prioritized efforts to promote a more diverse nursing and healthcare workforce, remove barriers to practice for Advanced Practice Nurses and new graduates, enhancing opportunities for interprofessional education, and elevating nursing voice by promoting new nurse leaders and engaging nurses on boards.

To Join the Center’s Mailing List: Sign-up at the bottom of the page at http://www.coloradonursingcenter.org/the-colorado-center-for-nursing-excellence/.

For more information, email Deb Center, Senior Director of Education and Coaching at Deb@ColoradoNursingCenter.org.

NursingALD.com can point you right to that perfect NURSING JOB!

Health issues affect us all...

Some issues can affect the ability to practice safely.

Safe, caring, and confidential services are offered to nurses and nursing students.

If you, or someone you know experiences problems caused by alcohol or other substance use, mental health, physical, or emotional difficulties, call today.

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The last quarter of our meeting year was also full of valuable learning, great connecting, and fun!

On March 20, about 13 DNA 16 members and their family and friends met at Project Cure in Centennial to have a brief dinner and meet and greet, and then went to work sorting out medical supplies to be sent overseas to developing countries. Thanks to Nan Morgan for coordinating this important event for the past six years.

On April 17, Nan invited guest speaker Maro Casparian, Director of Consumer Protection from the Denver District Attorney Office who spoke on scams/fraud/identify theft and elder abuse. Thank you, Nan, for bringing us this great program, and to Joanie Engler for accessing a room at Kaiser Franklin in Denver. The closing meeting for the year was hosted by CJ Cullinan on May 15 at her lovely home in Arapahoe Acres with dinner and discussion before the summer break.

Our 18th annual Nurses Night at the Rockies this year became Healthcare Appreciation Night at the Rockies held on Thursday May 10 during National Nurses Week. Mary Kershner coordinates this event annually and inspired this new partnership direction. The Rockies decided to start recognizing healthcare workers at selected games and donate portions of ticket sales toward the recognized group’s chosen request. Since more than 500 tickets were sold, with $2 donated per ticket, more than $1,000 will be donated to the Colorado Nurses Foundation for nursing scholarships. Thank you to Mary Kershner, Donna Strickland, Nan Morgan, Susan Moyer, and Chris Schmidt for representing nursing for another wonderful pre-game recognition on the field…this did make the loss to the Milwaukee Brewers sting a little less!

Despite taking a summer break, DNA 20 members remained active. Susan Moyer spoke at two National Conferences presenting Partnering: The P That Can’t Be Forgotten at the 2018 National Forum of State Nursing Workforce Centers in Chicago, June 6-8 and Be One, Forgotten at the 2018 American Association of Nurse Practitioners Symposium. We shared information about ways the value of membership in our organization benefits each of us as individuals and our profession. We answered questions about APRN practice in Colorado.

For information on DNA 20 meetings and speakers contact Annette Cannon at Annette2006@MSN.com or see the CNA website.

District & Special Interest Group Reports

DNA 16
Christine Schmidt, RN, MS
DNA 16 President

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DNA 20 West Metro Area
Norma Tubman, RN, MScN
Board Member at Large

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SIG 30
Janeece Moore, MSN, FNP-BC, RN
Secretary

Special Interest Group 30 (SIG-30) Colorado Society of Advanced Practice Nurses group, welcomed a new board member for the 2018-19 year as Shirlie Claggett is serving as the President-Elect. We are also excited to announce the first SIG 30 Board student representatives Joshua Zucker, Meghan Abrams, and Tu Nguyen. The student representative position will serve as a connection between SIG 30 and graduate level students.

The Colorado Society of Advanced Practice Nurses hosted a booth at the July Keystone Nurse Practitioner Symposium. We shared information about ways the value of membership in our organization benefits each of us as individuals and our profession. We answered many questions about APRN practice in Colorado.

SIG 30 Booth at Keystone Conference 2018

In June, a number of SIG 30 members attended the 2018 American Association of Nurse Practitioners Annual Meeting, which was held in Denver.

For information on SIG-30 meetings, visit our website csanp.enpnetwork.com.
Adam Diesi, BSN, RN, CCRN – AG-ACNP Student  
CNA Board of Director At Large - Recent Graduate

The American Nurses Association (ANA) held its annual Membership Assembly and Hill Day from June 21st-23rd at the Washington Hilton in Washington, D.C. The Board of Directors asked if I would like to attend as an observer and write an article about my experience, of course I said yes!

Arriving in Washington, I could feel the energy that this is where it happens and if you’ve seen the musical Hamilton, this is the room where it happens. I was extremely humbled and honored to be accompanied by a team of four nurse leaders: Executive Director Dr. Colleen Casper, Current President Donna Strickland, Previous President Dr. Mary Ciambelli, and Nurse Executive Sarah Baca.

Our first event was Hill Day where over 275 nurses attended over 250 meetings with their respective Senators and Representatives on Capitol Hill. Our team sat with both Senators from Colorado and seven House Representatives to discuss issues such as the opioid epidemic, safe staffing practices, and requesting the CDC fund gun violence research. We were able to tell our personal stories and have our voice heard.

After Hill Day was the formal Membership Assembly where elections were held, current policy was debated and positions were debated and taken on future items. Typically, this is where bylaws are changed and voted upon by the membership.

The over-arching theme this year was that of advocacy. The main message I took away from this conference was that we must not only advocate for the safety of our patients but we must advocate for our profession, and our practice. Without this advocacy and voice at the table, someone else will speak for us. As the current President, Dr. Pam Cipriano said, “It doesn’t matter what side of the isle you are on, we just want to make sure the voice of nursing is being supported.”

As a newer nurse I explicitly saw how being a member of the American Nurses Association and the Colorado Nurses Association made an impact on the nursing profession. The networking opportunities were amazing! The stories of other new nurses were eye opening, and the friendships made will likely last a lifetime.

I look forward to seeing you there next year!

State of Wyoming, Department of Health, Aging Division, Healthcare Licensing and Surveys is recruiting for Lead Health Facility Surveyor

You will serve as a Lead Health Facility Surveyor for Non-Long Term Care facilities within the Health Care Surveillance Branch, State Office of Healthcare Licensing and Surveys, Wyoming Department of Health, supervising health facility surveyors in conducting surveys and investigating complaints in accordance with Wyoming State Statutes and agreement with the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS).

For more information or to apply online go to: https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/wyoming and search HSHP10. Open until filled. EEO/ADA Employer.

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Embassy Suites Denver | Denver, Colorado
www.innsa.org/conference
Colorado Nurses Association Board of Directors Appoints Holly Covington as Region III Director

Holly Covington, RN, PhD, PMHNP, FNP, CNS has accepted the appointment to serve on the Colorado Nurses Association (CNA) Board of Directors as Region III Director. Dr. Covington is an Advanced Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner with a primary focus on prevention and treatment of substance use disorders. Holly lives and works in Grand Junction, Colorado and is a member of both DNA 5 and SIG 31 of CNA. Dr. Covington also serves as Associate Professor of Nursing at Colorado Mesa University. Welcome Holly and thank you!

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Doesn’t Mean You Are A CNA Member

CNA DISTRICTS:
The district you are placed in is based on your residential address. You can elect to receive information on the meetings and activities within your district. [See website for list of districts]

SPECIAL INTEREST DISTRICTS:
If you are interested in joining a special interest district, please choose the district that best suits your needs.

- 62 CNA EMAIL ONLY DISTRICT
- 30 CO SOCIETY OF ADVANCED PRACTICE NURSES
- 31 CO SOCIETY OF CLINICAL SPECIALISTS IN PSYCHIATRIC MENTAL HEALTH NURSING

OPPORTUNITIES FOR INVOLVEMENT:
CNA has many options for your participation in the organization. As a member you are welcome and encouraged to get involved with our working committees in order to help us achieve the mission objectives for the organization. If you are interested in getting involved, please choose the committee that you are most interested in.

- Government Affairs and Public Policy
  - Develops legislation, public policy and strategies for bills - primarily at the state level
- Legislative Advocacy Work Groups
  - Work Place Advocacy
  - APN Issues
  - Access to and integration of behavioral health and primary care

DUES PAYMENT OPTIONS PLEASE SELECT ONE.

- Full Annual Payment - Please indicate payment choice
- CHECK for full amount included
- CREDIT CARD - Please complete the credit card information inc. to the right
- E Pay (Monthly Electronic Payment) - Please indicate payment choice
- CHECK for the first installment included, funds will be drafted on or after the 15th of each month using the checking account indicated.
- CREDIT CARD - Please complete the credit card information inc. to the right, your credit card account will be charged on or after the 15th of each month.
- Automatic Annual Credit Card Payment (mark only if you wish to have your membership automatically renewed each year using the credit card information provided).

By signing the Monthly Electronic Deduction Authorization or the Automatic Annual Credit Card Payment Authorization, you are authorizing AAA to change the amounts for giving the member stated monthly amount to the foundation. Underwritten may cancel this authorization upon receipt of the American Nurses Association (ANA) or the State of Colorado website at https://colorado.gov/pacific/dhr/jobs for positions with the department.

RN’s
You can make a tangible impact on public health in Colorado by joining our staff of nurse compliance inspectors.

Critical thinking, clinical experience and health care system assessment skills are keys to success for ideal candidates.

No weekends or on-call. Great benefits and job satisfaction.

Check the State of Colorado website at https://colorado.gov/pacific/dhr/jobs for positions with the department.

22nd Annual Nurses Night at the Rockies

Mary Kershner RN, DNA 16

This year our annual Nurses Night at the Rockies became more inclusive. The Rockies asked if we would accept a new name to reach a broader audience. For the first time in Coors Field history, they offered a “Health Care Appreciation” night on May 10, 2018. This allowed marketing to the thousands of Rockies fans and the night was publicized along with the other Recognition Nights (Teachers, First Responders, etc) $2.00 of each ticket sold with this package was donated to the Colorado Nurses Foundation. We sold 521 tickets to the May game raising $1,042 for nursing scholarships.

Nursing was recognized during the pre-game ceremonies that night. Representing nurses were Mary Kershner, Group Leader, Donna Strickland, CNA President, Christine Schmidt, DNA 16 President, Nan Morgan, Past DNA 16 President, and Suzy Moyer, Center for Nursing Excellence Representative.

The new ticket package allowed nurses and their friends and families to choose from a variety of seat choices which meant we were represented throughout the stadium. At our request, they did reserve our usual “cheaper seats” section which allowed many of us to sit together that night. The weather was great, but sadly the Rockies lost to the Milwaukee Brewers 5-2.

The Rockies are thrilled to have nurses among their fan base and want to keep this annual event going.

(Update: see separate article for a SECOND Health Care Appreciation night in August!)
What are the Health Risks of Oil and Gas Development to You and Your Community?

Brenda VonStar RN, FNPC

Fracking is the process of injecting high volumes of pressurized fluid into the shale layer to expand and extend its many naturally occurring cracks, and faults to force open existing fissures and extract oil and gas.

I am a retired Family Nurse Practitioner and with the very real possibility of a fracking site literally in my open space (my backyard). While researching the risks to my family and others, I found as of January 2018, there were 55,151 active wells in Colorado, 608 spills, 17 explosions and seven people died including a Firestone house exploded killing two men and injured a woman and her child in Firestone from a house explosion.

Current setbacks from buildings occupied by human is 500 feet and 1000 feet from school buildings, unless the Oil & Gas Conservation Commission approves of wells as close as 150 feet from residences.

There are over 700 peer-reviewed studies that show significant health risks to humans in areas near fracking.

The Colorado Legislature adjourned in early May, but implementation continues as the State Board of Nursing reviews and analyzes new state laws they now must implement and enforce. One key piece of legislation is Senate Bill 18-22 Clinical Practice for Opioid Prescribing. The bill went into effect immediately upon the Governor’s signature, and limits the number of opioid pills a healthcare provider can prescribe. It affects physicians, physician assistants, advanced practice registered nurses with prescriptive authority, dentists, optometrists, podiatrists, and veterinarians.

Under the new law, a prescriber must limit a patient’s initial prescription of an opioid to a seven-day supply, if the prescriber has not written an opioid prescription for the patient in the last 12 months. The prescriber may exercise discretion in including a second fill for a seven-day supply. These limits do not apply if, as determined by the prescriber, or following the transfer of care from another prescriber who has prescribed an opioid to the patient; or as directed by the prescriber repeatedly fails to comply with this new requirement. The second fill requirement to check the PDMP constitutes unprofessional conduct if the prescriber repeatedly fails to comply with this new requirement. The second fill requirement to check the PDMP does not apply when a patient:

• Has been diagnosed with cancer and is experiencing cancer related pain; or

• Is experiencing post-surgical pain, that, because of the nature of the procedure, is expected to last more than 14 days.

• Is undergoing palliative care or hospice care focused on providing the patient with relief from symptoms, pain and stress resulting from a serious illness in order to improve quality of life. (This exemption is allowed for physicians, physician assistants and advanced practice registered nurses only.)

After the first prescription, the prescriber is required to check the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP) database before prescribing any additional opioids for the same patient. Failure to check the PDMP constitutes unprofessional conduct if the prescriber repeatedly fails to comply with this new requirement. The second fill requirement to check the PDMP does not apply when a patient:

• Is receiving the opioid in a hospital, skilled nursing facility, residential facility, or correctional facility;

• Has been diagnosed with cancer and is experiencing cancer related pain; or

• Is undergoing palliative care or hospice care;

• Is experiencing post-surgical pain, that, because of the nature of the procedure, is expected to last more than 14 days;

• Is receiving treatment during a natural disaster or during an incident where mass casualties have taken place; or has received only a single dose to relieve pain for a single test or procedure.

After the second opioid prescription, the law has no further restrictions on the healthcare provider's prescribing practices. The new law does require a healthcare provider, or the provider’s designee, to specify the provider’s specialty upon the initial query of the PDMP. It also states a violation of the new requirements does not constitute negligence or contributory negligence per se and does not create a private right of action or serve as the basis of a cause of action.

The State Board of Nursing recognizes this could mean significant changes in many nurses’ prescribing practices, and plans to conduct additional outreach activities to help affected nurses better understand the new requirements. Be sure to check the State Board of Nursing’s website for the latest updates at www.colorado.gov/dora/Nursing. If you have questions, please send them to dora_nursingboard@state.co.us.
**In Memory**

Eve Hoygaard, MS, RN, WHNP, Co-Editor, Colorado Nurse

We honor the memory of and acknowledge the work of these recently deceased nurses in our state. Sharing the names and other information about our nursing colleagues is one way we honor their memory.

Bertram, Judith Lee, RN (75) passed away in May 2018. She received a B.A. from the University of California - Los Angeles and her degree in nursing from Pasadena Community College. She was a surgical nurse for over 20 years in several California hospitals before continuing her career in Colorado.

Burton, Charlotte M. (Fryer), RN passed away in May 2018. She received her BSN from the University of Cincinnati in 1951. She practiced in Weld County Hospital in Greeley, Porter Adventist Hospital in Denver and a Colorado Springs Day Nursery.

Colette, Mary, RN (91) passed away in June 2018. A graduate of St. Mary’s School of Nursing in Rochester, her nursing career included 20 years in Private Duty - Hospice in Colorado.

Fry, Deedra, RN (50), passed away in April 2018. Grinnell, Joan B., RN (85) passed away in June 2018. Houge, Trina, RN, passed away in April 2018. She had recently completed her MS Mental Health NP program. Her involvement in the National Black Nurses Association included her serving as the Membership Chair of the Colorado Council of Black Nurses. She was a member of ANA/CNA/DNA 16. She was an active member of the Colorado Center for Nursing Excellence and was a member of the Membership Board of Directors.

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Knieval, Rhonda Holloway, RN passed away in April 2018. After receiving her BSN from Montana State University, in 2002, she completed an OB-GYN Nurse Practitioner program through Planned Parenthood of the Rocky Mountains and then received a Masters in Business Administration from the University of Phoenix. Her 35 year practice in Denver included a variety of settings including private practice and Jefferson County Department of Health and Environment. Her last area of practice was as a Nurse Practitioner in Ft. Morgan. She was passionate about the importance of APRNs in rural communities.

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Ruby, Margaret R. (Maggie), RN, passed away in April 2018.

Vinge, Lois, RN, passed away in April 2018. She worked as an RN for over 30 years.

Wertzyn, Judith, RN, passed away in April 2018. She received her BSN in 1978 from St. Vincent University and her MSN from the University of Colorado in 1980. Her career included Arapahoe Community College where she taught obstetrical nursing for 21 years.

We received information about the death of those nurses honored above. All of them lived in, worked in and/or were educated in Colorado. Membership in the Colorado Nurses Association is not required for inclusion.

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**Continue and Education Opportunities**

- 1st Annual Vascular Symposium Care in the Primary Care Outpatient Setting on September 12th – 13th
- ELNEC (Northern Colorado) - September 12th – 13th
- 12 Lead ECG (Mid-30s) - September 16th
- Neurosciences Summit (Metro Denver) - September 14th
- Advanced Burn Life Support© (Metro Denver) – September 25th
- ELNEC (Metro Denver) – September 25th-26th
- Fundamentals of Critical Care Support® (FCCS) (Northern Colorado) - September 27th - 28th
- Advanced Practice: Leading Healthcare into the Future (Metro Denver) - September 28th
- Fundamentals of Critical Care Support® (FCCS) (Metro Denver) – October 3rd-4th
- For more details or additional courses, please go to: uchealth.org/CNO (Click on Classes & Events Tab)

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**Weld County Government**

(Greeley, CO)

invite applicants to apply:

- **Community Health Nurse (Nurse Family Partnership)**
- **Public Health Nurse I-II Generalist**

To view the complete job announcements and apply online: [https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/weld](https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/weld)

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**Contact Carol O’Meara, Awards Committee Chair, at 303 779 4963 or carolomeara@aol.com with any questions regarding CNA Awards.**

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The Official Publication of the Colorado Nurses Foundation in partnership with the Colorado Nurses Association

August 2018 | Colorado Nurse • 17

**The Colby Community College Nursing Program, listed among the nation’s top three percent of vocational, career, and community college nursing schools by Nursing Schools Almanac, offers practical, associate degree and associate degree nursing programs in two locations. We are seeking qualified applicants for the following position:**

ASSOCIATE DEGREE NURSING INSTRUCTOR – Full Time in Colby

**QUALIFICATIONS:**

- Kansas RN license and CPR certification required
- MSN required
- Experience teaching in a practical nursing or associate degree in nursing programs
- Salary based upon qualifications

For complete job description visit www.colbycc.edu

To apply, submit a letter of application, resume, all postsecondary transcripts, and reference letters to:

1255 S. Range • Colby, KS 67701, materials may be emailed to hr@colbycc.edu

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Eve Hoygaard, MS, RN, WHNP, Co-Editor, Colorado Nurse

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Networks help you advance your career, provide high-quality care, and support your colleagues.

Takeaways:

1. Professional networks are crucially connected to your patient care.
2. Building a professional network can take two paths: a network in your immediate clinical environment or one created through an organization.
3. Professional networking has rules, such as adding value to others, building a professional image, and being prepared and positive.

**By Rose O. Sherman, EID, RN, NEA-BG, FAAN, and Tanya M. Cohn, PhD, MED, RN**

Maria is a direct-care nurse working on a medical/surgical unit in an acute-care hospital. She recently achieved certification and became a member of a national nursing organization for her specialty, both of which are needed to advance through the clinical ladder at work. However, Maria isn’t sure why her hospital values membership in the national organization or how it will help her career. She has a big family and doesn’t have time to volunteer in her local chapter.

Maria’s lack of understanding about the value of professional networks isn’t unusual. Many nurses never make the investment of getting involved with professional associations or take the time to ensure that they have a strong network of colleagues within and outside their own organization. They wonder why they should spend what free time they have on an activity that seems so indirectly related to their work. Why, they fail to see how a network can enhance their professional growth or be a wise career investment.

The value of professional networks

Maria, like all direct-care nurses, is part of the profession of nursing. As a member of the profession, she has the opportunity to develop through continuing education, certification, and membership in nursing organizations. These activities will help Maria evolve from a novice to an expert nurse and open doors to professional networks.

Professional networks also will provide her with mentorship, support, and teamwork opportunities. For example, if Maria’s interested in developing specific skills or advancing her education, she can use her network to identify a mentor for her. She’ll also save time by having a mentor who can help her re-create the wheel.

Professional networks are crucially connected to quality patient care. Specifically, healthcare demands evidence-based practice, but nurses across the nation frequently are faced with variations in patient care and deep-rooted sacred cows of practice that are neither evidence-based nor current. Working in silos of individual clinical settings, nurses are left with less-than-optimal patient care and the need to develop evidence-based solutions. This is why professional networks can promote evidence-based practice through collaboration. For example, as a member of a national organization, Maria can turn to other nurses and researchers to find the best practices or research findings from their clinical practice, reducing the need to re-invent the wheel individually. The result is consistent evidence-based, high-quality patient care.

For young nurses like Maria, a strong network can help when looking for new opportunities. Many positions are never advertised, and workforce recruiters acknowledge that their best referrals come from professionals whose judgment they trust.

**Steps to building a network**

Building a professional network can take two paths: a network in your immediate clinical environment or one created through an organization. Both require common steps. First, establish an understanding of your goals and who can help you achieve them. For Maria, this could include using her knowledge and experience as a certified medical/surgical nurse to establish a unit-based education program or to take part in a unit-based council to work collectively with other nurses through evidence-based practice and nurse competencies. Maria also might be interested in tapping into the nursing organization she’s joined to seek out up-to-date practice alerts. Regardless of the professional network, after goals are set and the right people are identified, you can interact, share knowledge, and receive plans to help you achieve your goals.

**If you don’t have a specific goal in mind, building a professional network might seem daunting or unclear. Start by putting yourself out there in the nursing profession.** For example, Maria is not able to commit to joining a committee within the nursing organization, she could attend and present at the organization’s annual conference. While there, she can take steps to maximize the networking experience. First, she should think about some organizational topics and introductory questions to use when interacting with other attendees. Depending on Maria’s professional goals, the topics and questions could revolve around clinical practice, leadership, or professional education. In addition, Maria should be professionally prepared for the conference, including wearing professional attire and taking business cards. She also should plan to attend and mix and mingle with the conference vendors, who could be potential future employment opportunities or offer cutting-edge evidence-based products she can share with her clinical colleagues.

**The golden rules of networking**

Networking opportunities exist everywhere, including online with sites such as Facebook, LinkedIn, and Twitter. Many nursing organizations have Facebook and Twitter accounts that nurses can follow to support networking about clinical practice and professional development. LinkedIn, on the other hand, helps nurses identify mentors and colleagues with similar interests. Regardless of whether you’re networking at a conference, within an organization, or online, you’ll need to follow some rules. (See Expert advice.)

Networkiing for introverts

If you’re naturally introverted, networking may not come easily. You may even avoid networking events because they’re exhausting and force you outside your comfort zone. The easiest part can be walking through the door into a room. Fortunately, most people would rather talk than listen, so let others do the talking. You can never go wrong asking questions and establishing common ground. (See Get the conversation started.) Chances are that once you ask questions, the conversation will flow easily. Many nurses like to be asked about their opinions and sought out for advice. You’ll be seen as a great networker because you take the time to listen.

Join the networked world

Over the course of her career, Maria will learn that building a network is one of the most powerful tools. However, Maria might not think that membership in a professional association can provide a good network. A network can take the form of a clinical setting that will help her gain access to and act on new information quickly. She’ll also save time.
Get the conversation started
Use these questions to jumpstart conversations at networking events.

• How did you get started in your role?
• What are your challenges?
• What significant changes are you seeing in your environment?
• What’s the most innovative thing that’s happening in your organization?
• What do you think will happen with healthcare reform?
• What trends do you see happening in nursing today?
• What advice would you give to an emerging nurse leader?
• How can I help you?
• Who else at this meeting would be helpful for your network?

Silver Spring, MD — The ANA Enterprise announced the appointment of Dr. Loressa Cole as its new Chief Executive Officer (CEO). She assumed this role on May 7, 2018.

In this role, Cole, DNP, MBA, RN, FACHE, NEA-BC, will provide strategic leadership and have responsibility for the operating activities of the Enterprise including management of staff and implementation of programs for the American Nurses Association (ANA), American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC), and American Nurses Foundation.

Dr. Cole is an accomplished senior executive who brings more than 30 years of progressively higher leadership and management experience, most recently as Chief Officer and Executive Vice President of ANCC. ANCC promotes excellence in nursing and health care globally through credentialing programs, recognizes healthcare organizations that promote quality patient outcomes, and accredits healthcare organizations that provide and approve continuing nursing education. She has been with ANCC since 2016.

Previously, Dr. Cole held Chief Nursing Officer and Chief Operating Officer positions within the Hospital Corporation of America’s (HCA) Capital Division. While Chief Nursing Officer at LewisGale Montgomery Hospital, she led the hospital to attain ANCC Magnet® recognition. Among her many accomplishments, she championed year-over-year improvement in employee engagement and reduction in nursing turnover, as well as implemented several specialty and Service Excellence programs that helped establish the regional health system as a Joint Commission Top Performer and earned Leapfrog® “A” rating for hospital safety.

“Dr. Cole is well prepared to lead and strengthen the ANA Enterprise. She was selected from a field of outstanding candidates to fulfill this top leadership role for nursing,” said ANA President Pamela F. Cipriano, PhD, RN, NEA-BC, FAAN. “She brings proven leadership as a seasoned healthcare executive and as the current Executive Vice President of ANCC. She demonstrates the vision, creativity, passion for nursing, and strong business acumen to leverage the strengths of ANA’s entities to enhance and grow the Enterprise.”

“I am very honored and excited to assume this prestigious position. The American Nurses Association is the professional association for all registered nurses, and a recognized leader in ensuring quality care for all Americans,” said Dr. Cole. “At 4 million and growing, America’s nurses outnumber all other health-care professionals and serve an essential role to protect, promote, and improve health for all ages. I am humbled to lead the organization that for more than a century has nobly represented and served our nation’s nurses. I look forward to working with the dedicated staff and volunteers who contribute tirelessly to maintain and grow the exceptional programs and credentialing products offered by the ANA Enterprise.”

Dr. Cole earned an associate degree in nursing from Bluefield State College in Bluefield, WV, a bachelor’s degree in nursing from Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond, VA, a master’s of business administration from Averett University in Danville, VA, and a doctorate in nursing practice from Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, OH. She is a member of ANA, Virginia Nurses Association, American Organization of Nurses Executives, and the American College of Healthcare Executives, where she holds Fellow status. Additionally, she currently serves on the Journal of Nursing Administration’s Editorial Board and the Joint Commission’s Nursing Advisory Council. A past President of the Virginia Nurses Association and the Virginia Partnership for Nursing, Dr. Cole has also served on multiple boards, including The Bradley Free Clinic of Roanoke (VA), The Free Clinic of the New River Valley, and the Daily Planet (Richmond, VA).

The ANA Enterprise is the organizing platform of the American Nurses Association (ANA), the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC), and the American Nurses Foundation. The ANA Enterprise leverages the combined strength of each to drive excellence in practice and ensure nurses’ voice and vision are recognized by policy leaders, industry influencers and employers. From professional development and advocacy, credentialing and grants, and products and services, the ANA Enterprise is the leading resource for nurses to arm themselves with the tools, information, and network they need to excel in their individual practices. In helping individual nurses succeed—across all practices and specialties, and at each stage of their career—the ANA Enterprise is lighting the way for the entire profession to succeed.

Dr. Loressa Cole

Shalom Park

Come join one of our neighborhood teams and love where you work.

We are seeking Nurses and Nurse Leaders to promote the Eden Alternative.

Shalom Park is a skilled nursing and long-term care community in Aurora, CO established 25 years ago to care for the elders in our community. We are looking for talented, innovative and friendly people who believe in providing caring and compassionate services to our nursing home residents.

If you are an Eden Associate or desire to become one, this is the place for you!

• Create caring partnerships and relationships with colleagues and residents
• Provide support, structure and teamwork to your nursing home neighborhood
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For more information or to inquire about applying, please call 303.873.5527 or email MCAR.Recruiting@HealthONEcares.com.

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With 15 hospitals spanning Colorado, two in western Kansas and 150+ clinics, you’ll find us in great places like the Denver metro area, Castle Rock, Colorado Springs, Cañon City, Durango, Frisco, Pueblo and more. Sign-on and relocation offered for select jobs. Visit our NEW careers site and connect to your next opportunity!

centura.org/careers