WITH DIGNITY AND HONOR THEY SERVE THOSE IN NEED.
WITH COURAGE AND STAMINA THEY BREAK ALL BARRIERS.
Through their work, lives have been saved. Because of their dedication, critical health care programs have been established. With passion and dignity, they have cultivated a profession that touches others in a powerful way. With perseverance, they have focused their energies on addressing health care disparities such as cardiovascular disease, cancer and diabetes within their own communities. With fortitude, they have conquered racial barriers.

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Discover what inspired these nurses to choose nursing and what their aspirations are for the future. Find out what makes each complete, as a person and as a professional. Live the rich histories of African American nurses through a historical timeline and forward written by respected author and black nurse historian Dr. M. Elizabeth Carnegie.

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Black Nurses — A Historical Perspective

By M. Elizabeth Carnegie, DRN, RN, FAAN

Black students considering a career in nursing can draw inspiration from the stories of success, educational achievements and advances made by black nurses in our country. History books have mostly omitted the rich history of blacks in nursing, but their contributions are no longer being overlooked. Here, we offer a perspective on the achievements of black nurses in the United States.

Early History of Blacks in Nursing

Black nurses have nourished our nation during slavery, war and peace. While nurturing their own families and fellow slaves, they cared for the sick and bravely laid their lives, in some instances, to ensure a better future for their children. The recognition of nurses in the last months of World War II; and by the time the Air Force Corps after the armistice was signed signaling the end of World War I, many black nurses served during World War II, although black students and faculty, and Johns Hopkins University. With regard to violence against women, Ms. Ashe-Goins has created many innovative programs to address the shortage by providing scholarships to nursing students, encouraging careers as nursing faculty, assisting in nursing education, and supporting career ladder partnerships between nursing schools and practice settings. Corps; Director, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Teaching Nurse Program, Center for Education and Regional Affiliations, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services; Director of Programs, University of Maryland Baltimore County (UMB); director of the division of Minority Health and Social Services, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services; Officer of Women's Health. She has a diverse background in clinical health care and public health education, and has created innovative health care programs and promotions to assist in the development of nurses for all communities. Formerly senior public health adviser with Public Health Services, as a member of the Health and Research Subcommittee of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s National Environmental Justice Council. She was elected to this position as deputy director and director of the division of Minority Health and Social Services, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services; Distinguished Nurse-Scholar, National Institute on Aging. Dr. Wykle holds a PhD, an MSN and a BSN from Case Western Reserve University; delegate to the White House Conference on Aging; Fellow, Gerontological Society of America; and Distinguished Nurse-Scholar, National Institute on Aging. Dr. Wykle has provided her expertise on race and gender in mental health, and has coauthored eight books, 30 book chapters and more than 500 papers on nursing, mental health psychiatric care, geriatrics and gerontology. Internationally, she has participated as visiting professor or presenter in Argentina, Brazil, China, Cuba, Italy, Mexico, Latvia, Taiwan, Uganda, Denmark, Ireland, Hungary and Zimbabwe. Dr. Wykle has served as director, principal or coprincipal investigator or consultant on 47 research projects, totaling more than 50 million in grants and funded by national organizations. Her numerous honors with women's and minority health issues, including HIV/AIDS, of policy and program development, U.S. Department of Health and

In 1955, Today, historically black colleges and universities continue to play a major role in minority employment and within the American Nurses Association (ANA). After fighting for equal rights and gaining ANA’s assurance that black nurses would be accepted as members on an equal basis, the NDNAn declined in 1951. Since then, two black nurses have served as two-term ANA presidents. Twenty years after integrating the ANA, black nurses identified the need to focus on the needs of the black community and its access to the health care system. As a result, in 1971 the National Black Nurses Association (NBNA) was formed. While the ANA is still considered the premier professional nursing organization, the NBNA pays close attention to minority concerns and serves as a national resource of black nurses and Johns Hopkins University.

Banding Together

In 1958 black nurses banded together to form their own organization, the National Association of Colored Graduate Nurses (NACNG), to fight discrimination in nursing education and to minority students. During the past 23 years, she has held teaching and administrative positions at Thomas Nelson Community College, Norfolk State University, George Mason University, and Hampton University. In July 2002, she was promoted to the rank of full professor. Dr. Powell has made a major commitment to underserved populations through projects in the areas of homelessness, environmental health, adolescent pregnancy and international development. She has served on the National Advisory Council on Nursing Education and Research Resources, and was recently appointed to the National Advisory Council on Nursing Research. She is a member of the board of directors of the American Association of Colleges of Nursing, and has extensive local and regional affiliations related to nursing education and primary care access. She is a fellow of the American Academy of Nursing.

The year 2002 was one of significant achievements for Dr. Py. She was appointed to serve as a member of the Health and Research Subcommittee of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s National Environmental Justice Council. She was elected to this position as secretary of the American Association of Colleges of Nursing. She also participated in a press conference with Secretary of Health and Human Services Tommy G. Thompson on the nursing shortage.

Dr. Powell holds a BS in nursing from Hampton University, an MS in maternal-infant nursing from Catholic University of America and an EdD in higher education administration from the College of William and Mary. She is the mother of two adult children.

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She has presented more than 200 lectures, speeches and workshops. A former columnist for the Baltimore Sun, her column, “Nurse’s Station,” won two health journalism awards. An Associated Press story about her National Institutes of Health-funded study of premenstrual syndrome has gained national media attention. She is also one of the Emmy she principal investigators for the Women’s Health Initiative, which is the largest known clinical trial of its kind involving more than 150,000 postmenopausal women nationally over the course of 13 years.

Dr. Strickland holds a PhD in child development and family relations from the University of North Carolina, Greensboro, an MS in maternal and child health nursing from Boston University, and a BA in nursing from North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University, Greensboro. She received honorary doctorates of science degrees from the Ohio Medical College, Toledo, and Grand Valley State University, Allendale, Michigan. She lives in Alpharetta, Georgia, with her two sons, David and Steven Carter.

Ernest J. Grant is a nursing education clinician for burn outreach at the North Carolina Jaycee Burn Center at University of North Carolina Hospital in Chapel Hill. He serves as the center’s liaison to prehospital, hospital and allied health professionals and corporations, providing continuing education on the immediate care and prevention of burn injuries. Mr. Grant oversees the burn center’s prevention program.

Through his efforts, North Carolina became the first state to successfully implement the Learn-See-Tell-Brain curriculum in each of the state’s fourth-grade classes. He is leading a preschool version of the class across the state.

Mr. Grant has written numerous articles for publication in scientific and research journals and textbooks. He is completing two safety research projects that examine the impact of physicians’ workload on health care and nurse-exposure costs.

A 2002 recipient of the Honor Nurse Practitioner award bestowed by the American Nurses Association, Mr. Grant is also Nursing Spectrum magazine’s 2002 Nurse of the Year. He was awarded the Governor’s Award of Excellence in 1998, the highest honor given to a North Carolina state employee. Active in the promotion of the nursing profession, he served as vice president of the North Carolina Nursing Association from 1998 to 2000 and co-chair of the North Carolina Association of Nursing Students.

Mr. Grant holds an MS in nursing education from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro and a BS in nursing from North Carolina Central University at Durham. He received his practical nurse education (LPN) at Asheville-Buncombe Technical Community College in 1977.

Her dedication to cancer-screening and detection in the African American community includes her roles as president of the Columbia Black Nurses Association; board member of All Woman, One Cause; and member of the Columbia Black Women’s Health Project. She is also a member of the Ohio Breast and Cervical Cancer Coalition, the Oncology Nursing Society and the National Black Leadership Initiative on Cancer. She is a member of the American Cancer Society’s Embracing Wellness program.

In 2002 Ms. Holland was named Midwest Region Nurse of the Year by Nursing Spectrum magazine. She has received the Columbia Black Nurses Association Clinical Excellence Award, the Outstanding Employee Award from the Columbia Burn Clinic and the William J. Hicks Excellence Award from the African American Cancer Support Group.

Ms. Holland received her nursing diploma from Ohio’s Grant Hospital School of Nursing in 1966. In 2002, she was selected to participate in an educational program through the Oncology Nursing Society in Miami, Fla. She also established a scholarship fund, named after her sons, for the Columbia Black Nurses Association to encourage the education of minority nurses. Ms. Holland is married to Benjamin Holland, a pharmacist, and has one son, David. Her second son, Jamal, passed away in 1986 at the age of 12.

Marivel King Davis, RN, MSN

Marivel King Davis is a licensed nurse specialist in psychiatry. She is service manager for dual diagnosis at Yale-New Haven Psychiatric Hospital. She has been working with Yale-New Haven since 1989.

In 1987, she worked as a psychiatric reviewer for Actua. In the early years of her career, she was the head nurse of the Day Hospital at the Connecticut Mental Health Center and staff nurse at the Yale Psychiatric Institute.

A lifelong learner, Ms. Davis received a teaching certificate from the Yale University-New Haven Teachers Institute, enabling her to become a family life educator at Hillhouse High School in New Haven. She serves as director of the summer Infant Toddler Program for the New Haven Public School Family Life Program and was a board member of Planned Parenthood of New Haven. She currently serves as president of the board of directors of Drexel Neshaminy Community Mental Health Services.

In 2000, Ms. Davis received a Distinguished Alumna Citation from the Yale School of Nursing. She is an active member of the National Black Nurses Association, and in 2001 was named the organization’s historian. She is a past president of the Southern Connecticut Black Nurses Association.

Ms. Davis holds an MSW in psychiatric nursing from the Yale School of Nursing and a BSN from Seton Hall University. She was appointed by the Yale Council of Matrons to be a fellow of Caduceus College, and she served on the board of governors of the Association of Yale Alumni. A New Haven resident, she and her husband, Reid Davis, have three sons.

An internationally known specialist and author in nursing research, measurement, evaluation, maternal and child health, and parenting, Dr. Strickland is founding editor of The Journal of Nursing Measurement. She has presented more than 200 lectures, speeches and workshops. A former columnist for the Baltimore Sun, her column, “Nurse’s Station,” won two health journalism awards. An Associated Press story about her National Institutes of Health-funded study of premenstrual syndrome has gained national media attention. She is also one of the Emmy she principal investigators for the Women’s Health Initiative, which is the largest known clinical trial of its kind involving more than 150,000 postmenopausal women nationally over the course of 13 years.

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Author of several articles, books, videos and audiotapes, Dr. Burnes Bolton coledepveloped the National Black Nurses Association Community Collaboration Model, which is utilized in more than 100 communities throughout the United States as a framework for improving community health. In February 2002, she was appointed by Health and Human Services Secretary Tommy G. Thompson to the National Advisory Council on Nursing Education and Practice, Division of Nursing, Bureau of Health Professions.

Dr. Burnes Bolton holds a BS in nursing from Arizona State University, and an MS in maternal and public health and a PhD in public health from the University of California, Los Angeles.

Eleanor M. Butler, MS, RN

Eleanor M. Butler is a district supervising nurse for the New York City Department of Health, where she oversees District 1 in Lower Manhattan. Her career in nursing began in 1985, after she arrived in the United States from her native Bahamas, where she worked as a physiotherapist/clinical rheumatologist from 1968 to 1980.

In 1985, Ms. Butler became a staff nurse at Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital in Boston, Mass. She later worked as a health care facility inspector for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Department of Public Health, where she monitored the quality of care in long-term facilities. In 1991, Ms. Butler entered the school environment as a staff nurse at Public School 146 in Manhattan. In 1991, she furthered her supervisory talents when she became the supervisor of nurses for the New York City Department of Education. There, she managed 100-150 nurses who cared for medically fragile children and students with special needs in Manhattan and the Bronx.

Ms. Butler is a member of the New York State Nurses Association and the Chartered Society of Physiotherapy, England. She was a presenter at the Caribbean Health Education Conference.

Ms. Butler holds an MS in education from Mercy College in New York; an MA in nursing administration from Teachers College at Columbia University; a BS in nursing from Boston University; and a BS in physical therapy from Sargent College at Boston University.
She has presented more than 200 lectures, speeches and workshops. A former columnist for the Healthy Weight Week column, she is the author of "Overweight Women: How to Lose Weight and Keep It Off" and "The African American Women's Health Handbook." She has contributed to numerous books on health and fitness for women of color and has appeared on television and radio shows. Ms. Holland is a past president of the Southern Connecticut Black Women's Association, and she was a 2002 nominee for ICU Nurse of the Year. She is a member of the Southern Nevada Black Nurses Association, the National Black Nurses Association, the Wildlife Federation and Nature Conservationists. She oversees administrative and nursing practice, nursing, research, nursing and allied health education, patient education and nursing performance improvement. She also is involved with the Institute of Professional Nursing Development, which is addressing the nursing shortage by promoting the profession.

Dr. Burns Bolton has dedicated her career to improving access to health care and health status for all members of society. Her research focuses on women’s health, health policy and organizational development. At Children’s, she leads research units on health services and nursing. She has held positions as staff nurse, clinical nurse specialist, public member of government advisory boards, health care executive, community and public health nurse, university faculty and consultant. Dr. Burns Bolton holds graduate faculty appointments at the University of California, Los Angeles; University of California, San Francisco; and California State University, Los Angeles. She is a Fellow of the American Academy of Nursing.

Sharron Hinze, RN, EBSRN

Sharron Hinze is a trained critical care nurse who works on the ground and in the air. She is a critical care nurse at Valley Hospital Medical Center in Las Vegas, Nevada, and a critical care fixed-wing nurse for Med Flight Air Ambulance. The mother of one child, she also works as the marketing program facilitator for Med Flight Air Ambulance.

Ms. Hinze’s community involvement includes volunteering for the Payback program, which promotes the medical profession among middle school children, and leading education sessions for SISTA to SISTA, which promotes HIV/AIDS risk-reduction to women of color in the lower socioeconomic community.

In 2002, Ms. Hinze received the Rose Award from the Professional Black Women’s Association, and she was a 2002 nominee for EU Nurse of the Year. She is a member of the Southern Nevada Black Nurses Association, the Wildlife Federation and Native Conservationists.

Ms. Hinze has received an associate’s degree in applied sciences from the Community College of Southern Nevada in 1995. She participates in continuing education courses to further her critical care skills.

Linda Burns Bolton, DrPH, RN, FAAN

Dr. Linda Burns Bolton is vice president and chief nursing officer of Cedars-Sinai Health System and Research Institute, Los Angeles. She oversees administrative and nursing practice, nursing, research, nursing and allied health education, patient education and nursing performance improvement. She also is involved with the Institute of Professional Nursing Development, which is addressing the nursing shortage by promoting the profession.

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**ERNEST J. GRANT, RN, MSN**

The Influencer

When Ernest Grant, who stands at 6 feet, 5 inches, dressing as “Sparky the Fire Dog,” preschoolers, kindergartners and first-graders pay attention. His lessons on fire safety and burn prevention are just one way he reaches out to the North Carolina community through his work as a burn nurse and nursing education clinician.

As a child, Ernest had aspirations of becoming a medical technological. Because family funds were limited, his guidance counselor suggested he enroll in a one-year LPN course. After spending a few short years in the hospital environment, he knew he had found his calling. Working full time, he managed to put himself through nursing and graduate schools.

Today, even though he faces daily challenges in his work with patients suffering from severe burn injuries at the North Carolina Jaycee Burn Center, Ernest proclaims he has the best job in the world. And he’s been working at the center for 20 years.

“It’s challenging and rewarding to make a difference in someone’s life every day, even if it’s a transition from this life to the next,” said Ernest. “I read once that ‘nursing is the foundation of health care,’ and it truly is. We are there 24 hours a day, seven days a week. We’re the ones the family remembers. We’re making a difference.”

Ernest makes an impact in other ways, too. Following Sept. 11, 2001, he volunteered at a New York hospital to treat burn patients. He is involved in several church ministries and sings in an award-winning gospel choir. And recently, he became a mentor to an African American electrical engineer, who aspires to become a nurse.

For the future, Ernest, who loves books, education and politics, hopes to earn a law degree, and eventually develop health care policy. Now he is enjoying his most recent honors as Nursing Spectrum magazine’s 2002 Nurse of the Year and American Nurses’ Association’s Honorary Nurse Practitioner.
"Our work gives us, as students and as African Americans, the opportunity to alleviate some of these health disparities."

Joseph Campior, Third-year Nursing Student

"Hospitals can’t function without nurses. Patients need a certain level of care. Nurses manage care holistically with compassion, efficiency and knowledge."

Tania Thorne, May 2002 Graduate

“Nursing is the best profession known to man. I have the best job in the world.”

Emmet J. Grant, RN, MSN
North Carolina Jaycee Burn Center
University of North Carolina Hospital, Chapel Hill, North Carolina

Four years ago, the Yale-Howard Scholars Program was established, giving Howard University students the chance to serve as summer researchers under the guidance of Yale University professors. “We wanted to develop a program to ignite within our minority students an interest in the science of nursing,” said Dr. Powell, who conceptualized and designed the program with Yale’s Dean of Nursing Catherine Lynch Gilliss. “We are providing leaders for America and the global community.”

Howard University provides several other research opportunities, including internships at the National Institutes of Health, the Jackson Heart TRAIN Project at the University of Mississippi, and the Minority International Research Training Project, which offers culturally rich experiences in Africa, Chile and Thailand.

The Howard nursing students selected to participate in these research projects — many of whom were previously undecided about their future — now know exactly what they want to do. Continuing their education is central to achieving their goals. “Graduate school is not an option. It’s a requirement,” said junior nursing student Joseph Campior, who spent the summer researching the effects of alcohol on cardiovascular disease among African Americans.

“The research program took me to the next level. I feel like I can do anything now,” added senior Charmaine Hutchinson, who aspires to earn a graduate degree from Johns Hopkins University. Senior Ambrosia Fisher from California is eager to use her recent experience and knowledge to care for children. She has a job waiting for her at the Children’s Hospital in Washington, D.C.

For senior Dianne Johnson-Thomson, nursing is a welcome career change after studying political science. “Everything I’ve learned through my experience at Howard and Yale I can now apply to my career in nursing. I feel that I’m prepared,” she said, adding that her plan is to work at the National Institutes of Health practicing oncology.

Tania Thorne’s experience as a military medical specialist inspired her to choose nursing. “The nurses inspired me. They were diligent, proficient and devoted to the profession,” said the May 2002 graduate. She is now working as a travel and contract nurse for several metro D.C. hospitals and is writing a research manuscript on “Carbohydrate Intake in High-Risk Youth for Type-2 Diabetes.”

Next fall, she plans to study acute care at Yale University graduate school, and she hopes to eventually earn a PhD in research.

DOROTHY L. POWELL
EdD, RN, FAAN & HOWARD UNIVERSITY SCHOLARS
The Young Leaders

Dorothy Powell, associate dean at Howard University’s Division of Nursing, has three dreams — to encourage more minority students to consider a career in nursing; to demonstrate the value of the science of nursing; and to show how students can personally ease health care disparities among minorities.

Her dreams are being realized through the comprehensive student research program created at the university.

THE MONTH
American Heart Month
National Black Nurses Day (February 7)
National Burn Awareness Week (February 2-8)

This Month
DOROTHY L. POWELL
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Nursing is the best profession known to man.
I have the best job in the world.

Emmet J. Grant, RN, MSN
North Carolina Jaycee Burn Center
University of North Carolina Hospital, Chapel Hill, North Carolina

The research program took me to the next level. I feel like I can do anything now,” added senior Charmaine Hutchinson, who aspires to earn a graduate degree from Johns Hopkins University. Senior Ambrosia Fisher from California is eager to use her recent experience and knowledge to care for children. She has a job waiting for her at the Children’s Hospital in Washington, D.C.

“For senior Dianne Johnson-Thomson, nursing is a welcome career change after studying political science. “Everything I’ve learned through my experience at Howard and Yale I can now apply to my career in nursing. I feel that I’m prepared,” she said, adding that her plan is to work at the National Institutes of Health practicing oncology.

Tania Thorne’s experience as a military medical specialist inspired her to choose nursing. “The nurses inspired me. They were diligent, proficient and devoted to the profession,” said the May 2002 graduate. She is now working as a travel and contract nurse for several metro D.C. hospitals and is writing a research manuscript on “Carbohydrate Intake in High-Risk Youth for Type-2 Diabetes.”

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### African American History Calendar

**March 03, 2003**

**Ruth Simmons**, Ph.D., president of Iowa State University, became the first African American woman to be appointed chancellor of a major academic institution, Tufts University, in Massachusetts.

**1897**: John L. Love patents the pencil sharpener, a device still used today to sharpen pencils.

**1930**: Elijah Muhammad establishes the Nation of Islam.

**1953**: Roy Campanella named Most Valuable Player in National Baseball League playoff series.

**1980**: Howard University airs WHHM, the first African American-operated public television station.


**1981**: Thirman L. Milner elected mayor of Baltimore, becoming the first African American mayor.

**1989**: L. Douglas Wilder elected governor of Virginia, becoming nation's first black governor since Reconstruction.

**1991**: Tuskegee University, Alabama, founded in 1881.

**1992**: Carol Moseley Braun becomes first African American woman elected to Congress.

**1993**: Sojourner Truth, abolitionist and orator, born.

**1994**: Charles Johnson awarded National Book Critics Circle Award for *Middle Passage*.

**1881**: Payton Johnson patents a device for raising steam from water for boilers.

**1930**: Clarence Thomas became the first black woman to serve in a state legislature.

**1991**: Judge Clarence Thomas formally seated as 106th associate justice of U.S. Supreme Court.

**1897**: J.A. Sweeting patents a cigarette rolling device.

**1941**: Mary Cardwell Dawson founds the National Negro Opera Company.

**1990**: Charles Johnson awarded National Book Critics Circle Award for *Middle Passage*.

**1957**: Betty Smith Williams learned from her mother that she could make a difference by becoming actively involved. When Betty was growing up in South Bend, Ind., her mother was always active in social and civic organizations. “I saw very early on how activism and collectivism could impact change,” she said.

This early example inspired Betty to lead a life of involvement.

In the late sixties, she cofounded the Council of Black Nurses in Los Angeles, and later became a founder and seventh president of the National Black Nurses Association. Today she is president of the National Coalition of Ethnic Minority Nurses Associations, which addresses cultural diversity in the nursing profession and the health care status of Americans from diverse cultures.

In 1957, Betty began her nursing journey in home health care and later in public health, before becoming a professor at UCLA, University of Colorado and California State University. "Because of my age and the times, I was by myself in so many things. I was the first black person to wear the cap of Frances Payne Bolton School of Nursing, Case Western University. And I was the first black person to teach nursing in a California college or university," she said.

That’s why one of Betty’s driving forces has been to promote racial diversity and to get African Americans involved in nursing leadership. She is a role model and mentor for nurses globally. "What satisfies me most is that through my work, and the work of my peers, we have stimulated others to find avenues in nursing," said the avid African art collector.

After 45 years in the field, Betty says nursing still excites her. Rattling, she said, isn’t on the horizon anytime soon for either her or Harold, her husband of 48 years. "I hope to have the opportunity to identify, influence and inspire more people. The greatest compliment is when someone decides to do what you like to do," she said. "I would like to be around to pass on the mantle of leadership.”
1885: Rebecca Cole, second black female physician in the U.S., born.
1846: Sarah Varius, first black female newspaper, is founded.
1922: The Phoenix Society, a literary and educational group, founded by blacks in New York City.
1959: Lorraine Hansberry wins Pulitzer Prize for play, 1959: St. Louis.
1945: Phyllis Mae Daley becomes first African American to join the Navy Nurse Corps.
1912: Carter Woodson receives doctorate from Harvard University.
1999: The Case Manager, RN, Wanda McGee-Igiozee, comes from a family of nurses. She and her three sisters became nurses because it was in their hearts to help others. As nurses in their careers they even operated a home health care agency together, but after four years they each decided to do something different.

Today, Wanda is a senior case manager for Aetna. While the corporate environment is not quite the same as the trenches of an ICU, where her career began, she still enjoys patient interaction. "A large part of my role is to provide education and ensure Aetna members are getting into the right programs," said the mother of 15-month-old Princeton.

Wanda, who cherishes her family relationships, remembers the loss she felt as a young girl when her grandmother died. So when she came in contact with a 79-year-old woman coping with Alzheimer’s disease, she developed a loving relationship with her and assisted in finding her a new place to live. "I became like the granddaughter she never had. My heart went out to her when I was 28 years old, but I didn’t have my grandmother. She came close to that for me." Today, Wanda and her son still take time to visit the 86-year-old woman.

Throughout her life, Wanda has always listened to the advice of her mother to strive for something. Her future plans, she said, include going back to school to become a nurse practitioner and to work in a family practice.

This is a timeline of African American history events for the year 1918:
1918: Eighteen black nurses admitted to the Army Nurse Corps after the armistice of WWI and assigned to Camp Sherman, Ohio, and Camp Grant, Illinois. Frances Reed Elliott Davis became the first black nurse accepted in the American Red Cross nursing service.

"When a surgeon takes his gloves off, lives are in the hands of nurses. That’s why it’s so important that nurses have the technical knowledge.

BETTY SMITH WILLIAMS, DrPH, RN, FAAN
National Coalition of Ethnic Minority Nurse Associations
Los Angeles, California

Wanda McGee-Igiozee RN
The Case Manager

Wanda McGee-Igiozee comes from a family of nurses. She and her three sisters became nurses because it was in their hearts to help others. As nurses in their careers they even operated a home health care agency together, but after four years they each decided to do something different.
Jacquelin Holland finds herself watching ER on television and remembering the excitement of working in that bustling environment when she first graduated from nursing school. “I loved the energy of it,” she said.

Jacquelin went on to work in a variety of health-related jobs, including serving as a woman’s health nurse practitioner, handling managed care at an insurance company and serving as an instructor in family planning. “I found whatever I did led to patience education. It’s a passion of mine,” she said, recognizing a need to provide health care counseling to African Americans. “Many health problems develop from not knowing how to take care of themselves.”

Today, as director of screening services at the Columbus Cancer Clinic, one of her responsibilities is oncology patient education — teaching others how to take better care of themselves and to practice wellness, early detection and prevention. She also teaches workshops about her heritage. “I am so open about myself, my culture, my heritage, my beliefs, that I’ve encouraged others to understand the problems, hopes and dreams of African Americans.”

Besides leading cancer detection and prevention presentations at schools, colleges, clinics and community centers, Jacquelin loves to be creative. She’s overseeing the “MaMa Says” marketing campaign for the Columbus Cancer Clinic and is a trainer for AllWomen, One Cause, an advocacy group that’s spreading the message about breast cancer detection within the minority and underserved communities. Her nature photography is on exhibit at a local gallery. She hopes to someday write two books — one on racial blending and its effects on health care, and the other on honoring older adults.

Throughout her career, Jacquelin admits she’s seen many barriers. “But I pushed them aside or climbed over them to achieve my goals,” she said. “Somewhere in my soul I knew I had something to contribute to the nursing profession.” She also credits her husband, Benjamin, for being very supportive.
As a child, Frances Ashe-Goins was always reading, handcrafting and caring for her dolls. The eldest of five girls and one boy, she took care of everyone in the family. “They looked to me to fulfill that role,” she said. It was natural that nursing would become part of her life.

Upon graduation from nursing school, Frances worked in several different hospital units. Through her experience, she realized that many health conditions, such as cardiovascular disease, could be prevented if education was provided. After several years in the clinical setting, she became an education coordinator at a hospital in South Carolina.

“We have to teach people to help themselves,” Frances said, adding that it’s especially important among African American women as they make their families’ health care choices. “We shouldn’t have to live with poor health outcomes from diseases such as diabetes, high blood pressure and stroke, which commonly afflict African Americans. We can make small changes that will enable us to lead healthier, happier lives.” It can be as simple as changing eating habits, exercising regularly or drinking water each day, she added.

Committed to disease prevention and helping women live longer and healthier, Frances is responsible for health policy analysis and program leadership in the national Office on Women’s Health. She focuses on women’s health issues, including HIV/AIDS, domestic violence, diabetes and minority health. She’s a founder and coordinator of the National Nurses’ Task Force on Violence Against Women, and her work for the National Committee on AIDS gave her the chance to coordinate the very first commission hearing with sports celebrity Magic Johnson.

Through her own life experiences, including the death of two nieces and one nephew, Frances has been able to develop disease prevention programs focusing on HIV/AIDS and lupus. In 2002, she was honored for her work in developing a health promotion/disease prevention model for young women. “No matter what I’m working on or when, I do the best that I can for as long as I can,” she said.

In the future, Frances plans to increase her efforts to mentor young people. “We have to be sure that there’s someone taking up the charge for health promotion and disease prevention,” she said.

FRANCES E. ASHE-GOINS
RN, MPH
The Policy-Maker

The Miseducation of the Negro
African American History Calendar
www.aetna.com/diversity/aahcalendar/index.html

1991: Istotie Massey Osborne became the first black nurse in the U.S. to earn a master’s degree. She also was the first black nurse to be elected to the board of directors of the American Nurses Association in 1948.

A Raisin in the Sun
Drama Critics Award (for 1959: Lorraine Hansberry wins New York for transmission of messages by electricity.

1885: Granville T. Woods patents apparatus


1990: Sarah Vaughan, jazz singer known

1924: United Negro College Fund

1983: Alice Walker wins Pulitzer Prize for

1984: Georgetown coach John Thompson

1989: Bill White elected president of the

1950: Blood research pioneer Charles R.

1931: First abolitionist society in U.S.

1775: Cinque leads Amistad mutiny off the

1839: Cinque leads Amistad mutiny off the

1862: Slavery abolished in the District

1864: 200 black troops massacred by

1918: Ella Fitzgerald,

1899: Percy Julian, developer of physostig-

1899: Edward Kennedy

1952: Dr. Louis T. Wright honored

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1947: Brooklyn Dodger Jackie Robinson

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MAY 03

MARVEL KING DAVIS
RN, MSN
The Historian

Marvel King Davis had a tough decision to make as a young girl — become a teacher like everyone else in her family or follow her dreams to become a nurse. When she discovered that nursing friends dealing with health care, her career path was clear.

"Teaching is an integral part of nursing," Marvel said. "We provide training to staff, teach families how to provide care and teach patients about their illnesses. It is just part of the practice," she said the mother of three, who is a past cochair of the Urban Health Fair. The New Haven wellness event addresses health care disparities among minorities by providing access to health care screenings and health information.

Nursing, Marvel believes, is an undersold profession. "We are talking about life, the responsibilities that come with it and the impact in life that we make in concrete ways," she said. "Through my work, I encourage patients to start where they are today and look forward. I want to help their tomorrow to be better."

After completing a full rotation at a nursing hospital, Marvel decided to specialize in psychiatric nursing. "It fits like a glove. I enjoy talking to the patients," she said. "It's brightening at first, but then I saw how the psychiatric patients could recover and leave the hospital. I had an impact on them."

Marvel has experienced nearly every aspect of psychiatric nursing, from corporations, to schools, to hospitals, to clinics, to state institutions. Her current role as service manager for dual diagnosis at Yale-New Haven Psychiatric Hospital has led her down a respected path. Two years ago, she received a distinguished alumna citation from the Yale School of Nursing. She also serves as president of the board of directors of Dorrwell Newbridge Community Mental Health Services, which is working to address mental illness among minority and underserved populations.

Recognizing that "what's important starts early in life," Marvel expects to become a mentor for students in the future. "I'd like to take what I've learned over the years and teach others." For now she's focusing her energies on the National Black Nurses Association, for which she was appointed historian in 2001.
MAY L. WYKLE
PHD, RN, FAAN
The Educator

It’s hard to forget the first patient whose life you saved. For May Wykle, her first was when she was working as a nurse’s aide and spent one night tending a patient who had a spiking temperature. “The next morning the nurse told me I probably saved a life. It was then that I realized what nursing was all about,” she said.

After working for many years in psychiatric hospitals, May decided she wanted to teach. “You have to determine where your talents are best and apply them. That’s what I did,” she said. Her talents are also apparent in her love for flower arranging.

May’s distinguished career in nursing education began at the Cleveland Psychiatric Institute, followed by the Frances Payne Bolton School of Nursing at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio, her alma mater. Today, she is the dean of that nursing school and has been honored as one of Northern Ohio’s most influential women.

Recognizing the growing population of older adults, May decided to refocus her energies on geriatrics. “Aging is so important. I worked hard to ensure there was a stand-alone course in caring for older adults in our basic nursing curriculum. We have to teach geriatrics in our nurses,” she said.

While geriatric nursing has never been considered glamorous, May hopes to portray the specialty in a different light. In addition to her work as dean, she is director of the University Center on Aging at Health and Aging at Case Western, working to improve the quality of care for older persons. In 1996, she served as principal investigator of a research project examining the care of minority elders, and in 1999 she published a book dealing with serving minority elders in the 21st century. She has been promoting these research findings through presentations across the country.

“Geriatrics can be very exciting. Twenty years from now the baby boomers will need care,” said the mother of two daughters, one of them also a geriatric nurse. “I always tell young people that what you do today to make the quality of life better for aging adults adds to your own longevity and sense of well-being.”
SHERRIE HINZ RN, BSNRN
The Caregiver

Sherri Hinz had aspired to be a nurse from the age of 14, but it wasn't until her son Isaac was born that she realized she had the courage and determination to make her wish come true. "Of all my turning points, Isaac's birth was the one motivating factor that inspired me to continue on, to obtain an education, and to pursue beyond fatigue, disappointments and divorce," she said.

Today, Sherri's 22-year-old son is proud of a mother who works in one of the most intense areas of nursing -- critical care. She not only works in ICU at Valley Hospital Medical Center in Las Vegas, she's also a fixed-wing flight nurse for Med Flight Air Ambulance, where she transports critical care patients, typically those undergoing open-heart and brain surgeries, to specialized hospitals.

Humor is what Sherri says she gives to her patients, particularly during transport. "There's not a better place to be funny than in the air. When in these situations, patients realize what little power they actually have. I help to put them at ease," she said.

As one of the first critical care flight nurses in Nevada, Sherri takes it upon herself to share her knowledge with those just entering the field. Nurses, she said, should leave their patients better than they found them. "Know your patients," she added. "Find out what they really need to be comfortable."

Away from work, Sherri also leads education sessions for community organizations such as SISTA to SISTA, which promotes HIV/AIDS risk reduction to African American women in lower socioeconomic communities and encourages high-risk teens to consider nursing as a profession. "I feel it's my job to make others know how important the nursing profession is," she said.

Sherri's inspiration wall at home features an image of Mary Eliza Mahoney, the first black professional nurse. She also is surrounded by cards, gifts, candles and treasures from patients, a testament to the impact she makes every day. "I go home each day knowing that I did the best job that I could do," added the Tennessee Titans and New Orleans Saints football fan.

"School nurses are role models to students. Students look forward to coming to see the school nurse when they aren't feeling right, or just need someone to talk to. We take the time to stop, smile and really listen to their health needs."

Bianca M. Butler, MS, RN
New York City Department of Health, District 1
New York, New York

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JUNE03

**THE CAREGIVER**

**SHERRIE HINZ RN, BSNRN**

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Bianca M. Butler, MS, RN
New York City Department of Health, District 1
New York, New York
ELEANOR M. BUTLER  
MS, RN  
The Supervisor

Eleanor Butler has a big responsibility. Her dual role includes that of public health nurse and school nurse. It’s her job to ensure that 13,000 urban schoolchildren have physical records and appropriate immunizations on file. This is on top of handling personnel and administrative tasks, as well as health crisis management within her city’s school district.

Eleanor has been working with the New York City Department of Health as a district supervising nurse since 1997. Her school district, which is less than one mile from Ground Zero, has 14 elementary schools, three junior high schools and eight nonpublic schools. She also consults with staff in a number of high schools.

“We’ve had some difficult times since Sept. 11,” said Eleanor, adding that many children in her district witnessed the tragedy in New York City. “Following that event, we provided psychological support to many students, families and school staff.”

Public health nurses typically are the first responders during crises and work in emergency shelters throughout the city.

Eleanor came to the United States in 1980 after working as the chief physical therapist in Nassau, Bahamas, her native island. While there she was instrumental in developing the visiting therapist home-care pilot program, which still exists today.

Her parents were her inspiration to choose a career in nursing — Eleanor’s mother is a nurse, and her father had managed his diabetes since Eleanor was a child. After working as a change nurse/supervisor in hospitals in Boston and New York, she decided to explore school nursing “interaction with children comes natural for me. They are usually so truthful and so real,” she said.

Eleanor started as a school nurse, caring for children with special needs before working her way up to supervisor. “It’s a rewarding profession. We show students how to be helpful to themselves. Teaching is an integral part of what we do,” she said. “There’s a lot going on in school nursing. You not only take care of the children when they are ill or when they need their medications, you have to understand their psychosocial issues and needs as well.”

“Nursing is not a job. It’s a lifelong commitment. I am blessed that I can impact lives in a very personal way, whether it’s in the ICU on the ground or in the air.”

Sherrin Hinz, RN, EMT-IR  
Valley Hospital Medical Center and Med Flight Air Ambulance  
Las Vegas, Nevada

“...in my personal way, whether it’s in the ICU on the ground or in the air.”

Sherrin Hinz, RN, EMT-IR  
Valley Hospital Medical Center and Med Flight Air Ambulance  
Las Vegas, Nevada

SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY

THIS MONTH  
Fireworks Safety Month (June 1-July 4)  
National Men’s Health Week (June 9-15)

1991  
Mabel K. Staupers received Spingarn Medal for leadership in the movement to integrate black nurses as equals in the nursing profession.

1992  
National League for Nursing, the leading professional association for nursing education, formed.

**timeline >>**

1953: Supreme Court ruling bans discrimina- tion against women to hold an executive position in a corporation.

1913: Dr. Effie O. Fairén named director of the first four-year program in nursing education, formed.

1897: William Barry patents postmarking machine.

1964: Carl T. Rowan appointed director of the United States Information Agency.

1920: Pianist and singer Hazel Dorothy Scott born.

1912: Joseph H. Dickinson patents portable player piano.

1950: AMA seats first black delegates at annual convention.

1952: National League for Nursing, the leading professional association for nursing education, formed.


1968: Henry Lewis becomes first black mayor of a major Eastern city.


1978: Allan P. Bakke wins reverse discrimination suit when the Supreme Court rules for him.

1831: First annual People of Color Football League invented.

1865: Blacks in Texas are notified of their freedom by Union soldiers.

1854: James Augustine Healy, first African American painter to have a work accepted by the Boston Athenaeum, born.

1927: George Washington Carver patents process of producing paints and stains.

1928: Jewish doctors opposed to Nazi policies publish book, “Medical Aspects of the Jewish Question.”

1942: Harvard University medical student Bernard Whitfield Robinson commissioned as Army Air Corps base.

1775: Minuteman Peter Salem fights in the Battle of Bunker Hill.

1871: First annual People of Color Football League invented.

1987: Tuskegee Airmen received Medgar W. Evers, civil rights leader, assassinated in Jackson, Mississippi.

1963: Martin Luther King Jr. arrested for leading nonviolent sit-in at a Montgomery, Alabama, department store.

1952: Supreme Court by President Lyndon Johnson.

1967: Thurgood Marshall nominated to Supreme Court by President Lyndon Johnson.

1919: First federal law authorizing the practice of medicine by women passed.

1776: Declaration of Independence adopted.


1954: Civil rights movement launched.

1864: Congress passes the 13th Amendment to the Constitution, abolishing slavery.

1970: President Richard Nixon declares a War on Cancer.

1939: Thurgood Marshall was nominated to the Supreme Court by President Franklin D. Roosevelt.

1956: President Dwight D. Eisenhower signed the Civil Rights Act of 1957.

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“In health care, you can cure problems, you can resuscitate, you can give medicine; but the real contribution is to find out what can prevent health problems from escalating in the first place.”

Linda Burns Bolton, DrPH, RN, FAAN
Cedars-Sinai Health System and Research Institute
Los Angeles, California.
THIS MONTH
Fireworks Safety Month (June 1-July 4)

LINDA BURNS BOLTON
DPh, RN, FAAN
The Executive

Linda Burns Bolton’s passion for nursing began early in life when she spent much of her childhood in and out of hospitals for asthma treatments. “The individuals who touched my life the most were the nurses. They told me asthma would not impair me. They gave me hope and encouragement,” she said.

Linda’s career as a nurse began in 1970 when, for the first time, she experienced the death of a 16-year-old leukemia patient. “I was only three months out of school. It was a life-changing moment for me,” she said. “It was then that I knew I needed to learn more about how I could help. I am passionate about humans and how they can help each other.” And then began her quest for knowledge — a quest she compares to a tumbling and twisting river.

After earning a master’s degree in nursing and public health and a doctorate in public health, Linda became an executive at Cedars-Sinai Hospital in Los Angeles. “It’s a huge responsibility, but it humbles me every second,” she said. “I have the best of all worlds. I can stay in touch with patients, nurses and doctors. I am connected to the community because of my research. And I stay connected to academia.” Through her work with the National Black Nurses Association, she is cofounder of the Community Collaboration Model, which is setting the framework for improved community health. The model focuses on the power of a community to heal itself through collective knowledge, skills and commitment. Health care providers are part of the process — the community owns it.

While her days are long and sometimes hectic, Linda spends a few moments each morning reflecting. “I thank God for seeing another day. Leadership can take a physical and emotional toll on you. To be a good leader you need a sense of belonging and a sense of self — where you are in the universe, what your purpose is,” she said. Her desire for reflection also takes her fishing, one of her other passions, because when you are fishing, “you are one with the water and one with nature,” she said. “I just love it.”

Linda has always believed in the potential of African Americans, and she’s working to promote nursing as a profession of choice, particularly among men. She grew up in a housing project and is committed to leaving something behind. “Each one of us has the potential to make things better for the time that we are here,” she said.

In health care, you can cure problems, you can resuscitate, you can give medicine; but the real contribution is to find out what can prevent health problems from escalating in the first place.”

Linda Burns Bolton, DPh, RN, FAAN
Cedars-Sinai Health System and Research Institute
Los Angeles, California.
NATIONAL MEN'S HEALTH WEEK (June 1-July 4)

THIS MONTH

1951: Mabel K. Staupers received Spingarn Medal for leadership in the movement to integrate black nurses as equals in the nursing profession.

1952: National League for Nursing, the leading professional association for nursing education, formed.

“Nursing is not a job. It’s a lifelong commitment. I am blessed that I can impact lives in a very personal way, whether it’s in the ICU on the ground or in the air.”

Sherrie Hinz, RN, EMT-P
Valley Hospital Medical Center and Medflight Air Ambulance
Las Vegas, Nevada

ELEANOR M. BUTLER
MS, RN
The Supervisor

Eleanor Butler has a big responsibility. Her dual role includes that of public health nurse and school nurse. It’s her job to ensure that 13,000 urban schoolchildren have physical records and appropriate immunizations on file. This is on top of handling personnel and administrative tasks, as well as health crisis management within her city’s school district.

Eleanor has been working with the New York City Department of Health as a district supervising nurse since 1997. Her school district, which is less than one mile from Ground Zero, has 14 elementary schools, three junior high schools and eight magnet schools. She also consults with staff in a number of high schools.

“We’ve had some difficult times since Sept. 11,” said Eleanor, adding that many children in her district witnessed the tragedy in New York City. “Following that event, we provided psychological support to many students, families and school staff.”

Public health nurses typically are the first responders during crises and work in emergency shelters throughout the city.

Eleanor came to the United States in 1980 after working as the school physical therapist in Yasuma, Bahama, her native island. While she was in nursing school in developing the visiting therapist home-care pilot program, which still exists today.

Her parents were her inspiration to choose a career in nursing — Eleanor’s mother is a nurse, and her father had managed his diabetes since Eleanor was a child. After working as a charge nurse/supervisor in hospitals in Boston and New York, she decided to explore school nursing. “Interaction with children comes natural for me. They are usually so thankful and so sweet,” she said.

Eleanor started as a school nurse, caring for children with special needs before working her way up to supervisor. “It’s a rewarding profession. We show students how to best help themselves. Teaching is an integral part of what we do,” she said. “There’s a lot going on in school nursing. You not only take care of the children when they are ill or when they need their medications, you have to understand their psychosocial issues and needs as well.”

AETNA
AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY CALENDAR www.aetna.com/diversity/aahcalendar/index.html

AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY CALENDAR www.aetna.com/diversity/aahcalendar/index.html
Sherrie Hinz had aspired to be a nurse from the age of 14, but it wasn’t until her son Isaac was born that she realized she had the courage and determination to make her wish come true. “Of all my turning points, Isaac’s birth was the one motivating factor that inspired me to continue on, to obtain an education, and to pursue beyond fatigue, disappointments and divorce,” she said.

Today, Sherrie’s 22-year-old son is proud of a mother who works in one of the most intense areas of nursing — critical care. She not only works in ICU at Valley Hospital Medical Center in Las Vegas, she’s also a fixed-wing flight nurse for Med Flight Air Ambulance, where she transports critical care patients, typically those undergoing open-heart and brain surgeries, to specialized hospitals.

Humor is what Sherrie says she gives to her patients, particularly during transport. “There’s not a better place to be funny than in the air. When in these situations, patients realize what little power they actually have. I help to put them at ease,” she said.

As one of the first critical care flight nurses in Nevada, Sherrie takes it upon herself to share her knowledge with those just entering the field. Nurses, she said, should leave their patients better than they found them. “Know your patients,” she added. “Find out what they really need to be comfortable.”

Away from work, Sherrie also leads education sessions for community organizations such as SISTA to SISTA, which promotes HIV/AIDS risk reduction to African American women in lower socioeconomic communities and encourages high-risk teens to consider nursing as a profession. “I feel it’s my job to make others know how important the nursing profession is,” she said.

Sherrie’s inspiration wall at home features an image of Mary Eliza Mahoney, the first black professional nurse. She also is surrounded by cards, gifts, candles and treasures from patients, a testament to the impact she makes every day. “I go home each day knowing that I did the best job that I could do,” added the Tennessee Titans and New Orleans Saints football fan.

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African American History Calendar

**MAY L. WYKLE, PhD, RN, FAAN**

**The Educator**

It’s hard to forget the first patient whose life you saved. For May Wykle, her first came when she was working as a nurse’s aide and spent one night tending a patient who had a spiking temperature. “The next morning the nurse told me I probably saved a life. It was then that I realized what nursing was all about,” she said.

After working for many years in psychiatric hospitals, May decided she wanted to teach. “You have to determine where your talents are best and apply them. That’s what I did,” she said. Her talents are also apparent in her love for flower arranging.

May’s distinguished career in nursing education began at the Cleveland Psychiatric Institute, followed by the Frances Payne Bolton School of Nursing at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio, her alma mater. Today, she is the dean of that nursing school and has been honored as one of Northern Ohio’s most influential women.

Recognizing the growing population of older adults, May decided to reframe her energies on geriatrics. “Aging is so important. I worked hard to ensure there was a stand-alone course in caring for older adults in our basic nursing curriculum. We have to teach geriatrics to our nurses,” she said.

While geriatric nursing has never been considered glamorous, May hopes to portray the specialty in a different light. In addition to her work as dean, she is director of the University Center on Aging and Health at Case Western, working to improve the quality of care for elderly persons. In 1996, she served as principal investigator of a research project examining the care of minority older adults, and in 1999 she published a book dealing with serving minority elders in the 21st century. She has been promoting these research findings through presentations across the country.

“Geriatrics can be very exciting. Twenty years from now the baby boomers will need care,” said the mother of two daughters, one of them also a geriatric nurse. “I always tell young people that what you do today to make the quality of life better for aging adults adds to your own longevity and sense of well-being.”

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**THIS MONTH**

Asthma and Allergy Awareness Month

Mental Health Month

National High Blood Pressure Education Month

National Nurse Week (May 4-10)

National School Nurse Day (May 7)

National Stroke Awareness Month (May 8)

National Women’s Health Week (May 11-17)

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MARVEL KING DAVIS
RN, MSN
The Historian

Marvel King Davis had a tough decision to make as a young girl — become a teacher like everyone else in her family or follow her dreams to become a nurse. When she discovered that nursing friends treating with health care, her career path was clear.

“Teaching is an integral part of nursing,” Marvel said. “We provide training to staff, teach families how to provide care and teach patients about their illnesses. It is just part of the practice,” said the mother of three, who is a past cochair of the Urban Health Fair. The New Haven wellness event addresses health care disparities among minorities by providing access to health care screenings and health information.

Nursing, Marvel believes, is an undervalued profession. “We are talking about life, the responsibilities that come with it and the impact in life that we make in concrete ways,” she said. “Through my work, I encourage patients to start where they are today and look forward. I want to help their tomorrow to be better.”

After completing a full rotation at a nursing hospital, Marvel decided to specialize in psychiatric nursing. “It felt like a place I felt comfortable talking to the patients,” she said. “I was frightened at first, but then I saw how the psychiatric patients could recover and leave the hospital. I had an impact on them.”

Marvel has experienced nearly every aspect of psychiatric nursing, from corporations, to schools, to hospitals, to clinics, to state institutions. Her current role as service manager for dual diagnosis at Yale-New Haven Psychiatric Hospital has led her down a respected path. Two years ago, she received a distinguished alumna citation from the Yale School of Nursing. She also serves as president of the board of directors of Dixwell Newhallville Community Mental Health Services, which is working to address mental illness among minority and underserved populations.

Recognizing that “what’s important starts early in life,” Marvel expects to become a mentor for students in the future. “I’d like to take what I’ve learned over the years and teach others.” For now she’s focusing her energies on the National Black Nurses Association, for which she was appointed historian in 2001.
FRANCES E. ASHE-GOINS
RN, MPH
The Policy-Maker

As a child, Frances Ashe-Goins was always manding, handaging and caring for her dolls. The eldest of five girls and one boy, she took care of everyone in the family. “I thought, if I could just fulfill that role,” she said. It was not until nursing became part of her life.

Upon graduation from nursing school, Frances worked in several different hospital units. Through her experience, she realized that many health conditions, such as cardiovascular disease, could be prevented if education was provided. After several years in the clinical setting, she became an education coordinator at a hospital in South Carolina.

“We have to teach people to help themselves,” Frances said, asking that it’s especially important among African American women as they form their families’ health care choices. “We shouldn’t have to live with poor health outcomes from diseases such as diabetes, high blood pressure and stroke, which commonly afflict African Americans.

We can make small changes that will enable us to lead healthier, happier lives.” It can be as simple as changing eating habits, exercising regularly or drinking water each day, she added.

Committed to disease prevention and helping women live longer and healthier, Frances is responsible for health policy analysis and program leadership in the national Office on Women’s Health.

She focuses on women’s health issues, including HIV/AIDS, domestic violence, diabetes and minority health. She’s a founder and coordinator of the National Nurses’ Task Force on Violence Against Women, and her work for the National Committee on AIDS gave her the chance to coordinate the very first commission hearing with sports celebrity Magic Johnson.

Through her own life experiences, including the death of two nieces and one nephew, Frances has been able to develop disease prevention programs focusing on HIV/AIDS and lupus. In 2002, she was honored for her work in developing a health promotion/disease prevention model for young women. “No matter what I’m working on or when, I do the best that I can for as long as I can,” she said.

In the future, Frances plans to increase her efforts to mentor young people. “We have to raise there’s someone taking up the charge for health promotion and disease prevention,” she said.

1913: Poet-orator James Madison Bell, leader, dies.
1939: Cinque leads Amistad mutiny off the coast of Cuba.
1968: Dr. Louis T. Wright honored by American Cancer Society for his work in the Columbus Cancer Clinic, Columbus, Ohio.
1993: Civil rights champion Benjamin Chavis Jr. is elected head of the NAACP.
1997: Helen Thomas, journalist and author, dies.
2003: Billie Holiday, blues singer, dies.
2006: John Thompson, Georgetown University basketball coach, dies.
April 3, 1993: Toni Morrison becomes the first woman (LeRoi Jones) born.

1934: Playwright-poet Amiri Baraka (LeRoi Jones) born.

1964: At age 35, Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. becomes youngest man to win Nobel Peace Prize.

1981: Edward M. McIntyre elected first African American mayor of Augusta, Georgia.


1992: Toronto Blue Jays manager Cito Gaston becomes first African American manager of a Major League Baseball team.

1993: President Bill Clinton appoints Frances E. Ashe-Goins, RN, MPH, as Surgeon General.

1997: James Perkins sworn in as Selma, Alabama, police chief.

2000: James Perkins sworn in as Selma, Alabama, police chief.

2001: Dr. Charles Drew named supervisor of the “Plan for Civilian Nursing” program.

2007: Tranquility Glass, 68, was killed in a fire as she and 11 other residents were in the middle of the night.

2010: Shirleen P. Johnson becomes the first black woman in the U.S. Department of Defense to become a Brig. Gen.


Today, as director of screening services at the Columbus Cancer Clinic, one of her responsibilities is oncology patient education—teaching others how to take better care of themselves and to practice wellness, early detection and prevention. She also teaches coworkers about her heritage. “I am so open about myself, my culture, my heritage, my beliefs,” she said. “People ask me questions about how to understand the problems, hopes and dreams of African Americans.”

Besides leading cancer detection and prevention presentations at schools, colleges, clinics and community centers, Jacquelin loves to be creative. She’s overseeing the “MaMa Says” marketing campaign for the Columbus Cancer Clinic and is a trainer for All Women, One Cause, an advocacy group that’s spreading the message about breast cancer detection within the minority and underserved communities. Her nature photography is on exhibit at a local gallery. She hopes to someday write two books—one on racial blending and its effects on health care, and the other on honoring older adults.

Throughout her career, Jacquelin admits she’s seen many barriers. “But I pushed them aside or climbed over them to achieve my goals,” she said. “Somewhere in my soul I knew I had something to contribute to the nursing profession.” She also credits her husband, Benjamin, for being very supportive.
WANDA MCGEE-IGIOZEE
RN
The Case Manager

Wanda McGee-Igiozee comes from a family of nurses. She and
her three sisters became nurses because it was in their hearts to help
others. As one of the oldest in her family, they even operated a
home health care agency together, but after four years they each
decided to do something different.

Today, Wanda is a senior case manager for Aetna. While the
corporate environment is not quite the same as the trenches of an
ICU, where her career began, she still enjoys patient interaction.
“A large part of my role is to provide education and ensure
Aetna members are getting into the right programs,” said the
mother of 15-month-old Princeton.

She handles a variety of cases, typically catastrophic, geriatric or
custodial-related. One family recently had to deal with a life-altering experience. “I help families find common
ground. There can be so much stress on a family dealing with
these situations. It’s my job to help them to become independent.”

Wanda, who cherishes her family relationships, remembers the
loss she felt as a young girl when her grandmother died. So
when she came in contact with a 79-year-old woman coping
with Alzheimer’s disease, she developed a loving relationship
with her and assisted in finding her a new place to live. “I became
like the granddaughter she never had. My heart went out to her
when I was 28 years old, then, and I didn’t have my grandmother.
She came close to that for me.” Today, Wanda and her son still take
time to visit the 86-year-old woman.

Throughout her life, Wanda has always listened to the advice
of her mother to strive for something. Her future plans, she said,
include going back to school to become a nurse practitioner and
to work in a family practice.

“...When a surgeon takes his gloves off, lives are in the
hands of nurses. That’s why it’s so important that nurses have the technical knowledge.”

Betsy Smith Williams, DPh, RN, FAAN
National Coalition of Ethnic Minority Nurse Associations
Los Angeles, California

African American History Calendar
www.aetna.com/diversity/aahcalendar/index.html

Aetna
Celebrating 150 years
February 2003

Betty Smith Williams learned from her mother that she could make a difference by becoming actively involved. When Betty was growing up in South Bend, Ind., her mother was always active in social and civic organizations. “I saw very early on how activism and collectivism could impact change,” she said.

This early example inspired Betty to lead a life of involvement.

In the late sixties, she cofounded the Council of Black Nurses in Los Angeles, and later became a founder and seventh president of the National Coalition of Ethnic Minority Nurse Associations. Today she is president of the National Black Nurses Association, which addresses cultural diversity in the nursing profession and the health care status of African Americans from diverse cultures.

In 1977, Betty began her nursing journey in home health care and later in public health, before becoming a professor at UCLA, University of Colorado and California State University. “Because of my age and the times, I was by myself in a lot of things,” she said. “I was the first black person to wear the cap of Frances Payne Bolton School of Nursing, Case Western University. And I was the first black person to teach nursing in a California college or university,” she said.

That’s why one of Betty’s driving forces has been to promote racial diversity and to get African Americans involved in nursing leadership. She is a role model and mentor for nurses globally. “What satisfies me most is that through my work, and the work of my peers, we have stimulated others to find avenues in nursing,” said the avid African art collector.

After 45 years in the field, Betty says nursing still excites her. Rattling, she said, isn’t on the horizon anytime soon for either her or Harold, her husband of 48 years. “I hope to have the opportunity to identify, influence and inspire more people. The greatest compliment is when someone decides to do what you like to do,” she said. “I would like to be around to pass on the mantle of leadership.”

1921: Thirman L. Milner elected mayor of Philadelphia.

1938: Crystal Bird Faucet elected state representative in Pennsylvania, becoming Pennsylvania’s first black woman to serve in a state legislature.

1941: Mary Cardwell Dawson founds the National Negro Opera Company.


1963: Shirley Chisholm of Brooklyn, New York, becomes first African American woman elected to Congress.

1969: Howard University airs WHHM, the first African American-operated public television station.

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1981: Pam Johnson named publisher of the Ithaca Journal, the first African American woman to head a daily newspaper.


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“Our work gives us, as students and as African Americans, the opportunity to alleviate some of these health disparities.”

Joseph Camphor, Third-year Nursing Student

“Hospitals can’t function without nurses. Patients need a certain level of care. Nurses manage care holistically with compassion, efficiency and knowledge.”

Tania Thorne, May 2002 Graduate

DOROTHY L. POWELL
EID, RN, FAAN
& HOWARD UNIVERSITY SCHOLARS

The Young Leaders

Dorothy Powell, associate dean at Howard University’s Division of Nursing, has three dreams — to encourage minority students to consider a career in nursing; to demonstrate the value of the science of nursing; and to show how they can personally use health care disparities among minorities. Her dreams are being realized through the comprehensive student research program created at the university.

Four years ago, the Yale-Howard Scholars Program was established, giving Howard University students the chance to serve as summer researchers under the guidance of Yale University professors. “We wanted to develop a program to ignite within our minority students an interest in the science of nursing,” said Dr. Powell, who conceptualized and designed the program with Yale’s Dean of Nursing Catherine Lynch Gilliss. “We are providing leaders for America and the global community.”

Howard University provides several other research opportunities, including internships at the National Institutes of Health, the Jackson Heart TRAIN Project at the University of Mississippi, and the Minority International Research Training Project, which offers culturally rich experiences in Africa, Chile and Thailand.

The Howard nursing students selected to participate in these research projects — many of whom were previously undecided about their future — now know exactly what they want to do. Continuing their education is central to achieving their goals. “Graduate school is not an option. It’s a requirement,” said junior nursing student Joseph Camphor, who spent the summer researching the effects of alcohol on cardiovascular disease among African Americans.

“The research program took me to the next level. I feel like I can do anything now,” added senior Charmaine Hutchinson, who aspires to earn a graduate degree from Johns Hopkins University. Senior Ambrosia Fisher from California is eager to use her recent experience and knowledge to care for children. She has a job waiting for her at the Children’s Hospital in Washington, D.C.

For senior Diane Johnson-Thomas, nursing is a welcome career change after studying political science. “Everything I’ve learned through my experiences at Howard and Yale can now apply to my career in nursing. I feel that I’m prepared,” she said, adding that her plan is to work at the National Institutes of Health practicing endocrinology.

Tania Thorne’s experience as a military medical specialist inspired her to choose nursing. “The nurses inspired me. They were diligent, professional and devoted to the profession,” she said, May 2002 graduate. She is now working as a travel and contract nurse for several metro D.C. hospitals and is writing a research manuscript on “Carbohydrate Intake in High-Risk Youth for Type-2 Diabetes.” Next fall, she plans to study acute care at Yale University graduate school, and she hopes to eventually earn a PhD in research.

“Nursing is the best profession known to man. I have the best job in the world.”

Emile J. Grant, RN, MSN
North Carolina Jaycees Burn Center
University of North Carolina Hospital, Chapel Hill, North Carolina

SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY

THIS MONTH

American Heart Month
National Black Nurses Day (February 7)
National Burn Awareness Week (February 2-8)

timeline >>

1896 American Nurses Association founded.

1900 Josie D. Scales became the first black public health nurse in U.S.

1908 Martha Minerva Franklin founded and became the first president of the National Association of Colored Graduate Nurses.

1922 Home of Frederick Douglass made a national shrine.

1934: Adah B. Thoms, crusader for equal opportunity for blacks in nursing, dies.

1943: Adah B. Thoms, crusader for equal opportunity for blacks in nursing, dies.

1992: Alex Haley, Pulitzer Prize-winning author of Roots, dies.

1990: Nelson Mandela of South Africa is released from prison after 27 years.

2001: Habitat for Humanity celebrates 30th anniversary.


2008: Tania Thorne's experience as a military medical specialist inspired her to choose nursing. “The nurses inspired me. They were diligent, professional and devoted to the profession,” she said, May 2002 graduate. She is now working as a travel and contract nurse for several metro D.C. hospitals and is writing a research manuscript on “Carbohydrate Intake in High-Risk Youth for Type-2 Diabetes.” Next fall, she plans to study acute care at Yale University graduate school, and she hopes to eventually earn a PhD in research.

2010: Harvard University 400th anniversary.

2015: Friendship Heights, Washington D.C.


2022: Howard University’s new medical school opens.

2023: Howard University’s new medical school opens.

2024: Howard University’s new medical school opens.

2025: Howard University’s new medical school opens.
ERNST J. GRANT
RN, MSN
The Influencer

When Ernst Grant, who stands at 6 feet, 5 inches, dresses as “Sparky the Fire Dog,” preschoolers, kindergartners and fire-folks pay attention. His lessons on fire safety and burn prevention are just one way he reaches out to the North Carolina community through his work as a burn nurse and nursing education clinician.

As a child, Ernst had aspirations of becoming a medical technician. Because family funds were limited, his guidance counselor suggested he enroll in a one-year LPN course. After spending a few short years in the hospital environment, he knew he had found his calling. Working full time, he managed to put himself through nursing and graduate schools.

Today, even though he faces daily challenges in his work with patients suffering from severe burn injuries at the North Carolina Jaycee Burn Center, Ernst proclaims he has the best job in the world. And he’s been at the center for 20 years.

“It’s challenging and rewarding to make a difference in someone’s life every day, even if it’s a transition from this life to the next,” said Ernst. “I tend once that ‘nursing is the foundation of health care,’ and it truly is. We are there 24 hours a day, seven days a week. We’re the ones the family remembers. We’re making a difference.”

Ernst makes an impact in other ways, too. Following Sept. 11, 2001, he volunteered at a New York hospital to treat burn patients. He is involved in several church ministries and sings in an award-winning gospel choir. And recently, he became a mentor to an African-American electrical engineer, who aspires to become a nurse.

For the future, Ernst, who loves books, education and politics, hopes to earn a law degree, and eventually develop health care policy. Now he is enjoying his most recent honors as Nursing Spectrum magazine’s 2002 Nurse of the Year and American Nurses Association’s Honorary Nurse Practitioner.

AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY CALENDAR www.aetna.com/diversity/aahcalendar/index.html
M. Elizabeth Carnegie, DPA, RN, FAAN

M. Elizabeth Carnegie has exhibited courage, integrity and commitment to the advancement of the nursing profession, as well as to the advancement of black and other minority nurses.

Dr. Carnegie was employed at the American Journal of Nursing company from 1933 until 1976 and is currently editor emerita of Nursing Research. She has written, edited and contributed chapters to nearly 20 books and is among all three editions of the award-winning The Path We Tread: Blacks in Nursing Worldwide, 1834-1994.

She initiated theAccelerate Nursing program at the historically black Hampton University in Virginia, where the archives are named in her honor. In past years, she was a professor of the school of nursing at Florida A&M University (1945-1955).

Since retiring in 1979, Dr. Carnegie has served as an independent consultant for scientific writing and as distinguished visiting professor for the Schools of Nursing at Hampton University; the University of North Carolina at Greensboro; Pennsylvania State University at University Park; Indiana University in Indianapolis; University of Massachusetts at Amherst; University of Michigan, Ann Arbor; and Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond. She has also consulted on educational chairs at Adelphi University in New York and Memphis State University in Tennessee.

She has received eight honorary doctorates and countless awards, including the George Arms Pomson Medal from her alma mater, Syracuse University; the President’s Award from Sigma Theta Tau International; and the Living Legend Award from the Association of Black Nurse Faculty in Higher Education.

Ora L. Strickland, PhD, DSc (Hon), RN, FAAN

Ora L. Strickland is professor in the Nell Hodgson Woodruff School of Nursing at Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia, where she is the first holder of the Independence Foundation Established Professorship. She is also a research specialist at the Atlanta Veterans Administration Medical Center.

Dr. Strickland served as professor in the School of Nursing at the University of Maryland, Baltimore, and taught at the University of North Carolina and North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University. She has held nursing positions at Davidson County Health Department and Harlem Hospital Center in New York City.

Betty Smith Williams, DrPH, RN, FAAN

Dr. Betty Smith Williams is professor emerita, Department of Nursing, California State University, Long Beach. She is a former dean and professor, School of Nursing, University of Colorado Health Sciences Center in Denver; and she has also held faculty and assistant dean positions in the School of Nursing at UCLA. She continues to teach and mentor nursing students and to provide her expertise to a variety of health organizations and companies.

Dr. Williams is a founder, charter member and seventh president of the National Black Nurses Association. She cofounded the Council of Black Nurses Inc., Los Angeles, in 1968. She is president of the National Coalition of Ethnic Minority Nurse Associations and was elected a fellow of the American Academy of Nursing in 1980.

Dr. Williams has been named treasurer of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc. and president of DST Telecommunications Inc. She has served on philanthropic and corporate boards, including Blue Cross of California. She is a member of the National Black Leadership Roundtable, Summit Health Coalition, and the Black Congress on Health, Law and Economics.

A recipient of the Distinguished Alumni Award from Frances Payne Bolton School of Nursing at Case Western Reserve University, Dr. Williams has been honored among the 150 Influential Opinion Leaders by Ebony magazine. In 1989, the UCLA School of Public Health established the Betty Smith Williams Scholarship for graduate education of African American students.

She holds a doctor of public health and an MS in nursing from the University of California, Los Angeles; an MS in nursing from Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio; and a BS in zoology from Howard University, Washington, D.C. She lives in Los Angeles with her husband, architect Harold Louis Williams.

Jacquelin Holland, RN, CRNP

Jacquelin Holland’s 25 years as a nurse practitioner encompasses both nursing management and clinical practice. She is the director of screening programs at the Columbia Cancer Clinic in Ohio. For the past two years she has served as a grant reviewer for the Ohio Commission on Minority Health.

Through her work at Planned Parenthood of Central Ohio, Ms. Holland became one of the first nurses practitioners in the state trained in women’s health and family planning.

Linda Burns Bolton, DrPH, RN, FAAN

Dr. Linda Burns Bolton is vice president and chief nursing officer of Loma Linda University Medical Center, Los Angeles. She oversees administrative and nursing practice, nursing, research, nursing and allied health education, patient education and nursing performance improvement. She also is involved with the Institute for Professional Nursing Development, which is addressing the nursing shortage by promoting the profession.

Dr. Burns Bolton has dedicated her career to improving access to health care and health status for all members of society. Her research focuses on women’s health, health policy and organizational development. At California State University, she leads research on health services and nursing. She has held positions as staff nurse, clinical nurse specialist, public member of government advisory boards, health care executive, community and public health nurse, university faculty and consultant.

Dr. Burns Bolton holds graduate faculty appointments at the University of California, Los Angeles; University of California, San Francisco; and California State University, Los Angeles. She is a Fellow of the American Academy of Nursing.

African American History Month

2000: Reuben V. Anderson, first African American in the California Department of Justice.

1963: Violette Neatly Anderson becomes the first registered black nurse, born.

1926: Violette Neatly Anderson becomes the first registered black nurse.

1863: Abraham Lincoln issues Emancipation Proclamation, starts the path to freedom for four million slaves.

1857: The Fugitive Slave Law is passed.


1919: George Washington Carver agricultural scientist, dies.

1985: Reuben V. Anderson, first African American in the California Department of Justice.

1963: Violette Neatly Anderson becomes the first registered black nurse, born.

1926: Violette Neatly Anderson becomes the first registered black nurse.

1863: Abraham Lincoln issues Emancipation Proclamation, starts the path to freedom for four million slaves.

1857: The Fugitive Slave Law is passed.

An internationally known specialist and author in nursing research, measurement, evaluation, maternal and child health, and parenting, Dr. Strickland is founding editor of The Journal of Nursing Measurement. She has presented more than 200 lectures, speeches and workshops. A former columnist for the Baltimore Sun, her column, “Nurse’s Station,” won two health journalism awards. An Associated Press story about her National Institutes of Health-funded study of premenstrual syndrome has gained national media attention. She is also one of the Emory staff principal investigators for the Women’s Health Initiative, which is the largest known clinical trial of its kind involving 164,000 postmenopausal women nationally over the course of 13 years.

Dr. Strickland holds a PhD in child development and family relations from the University of North Carolina, Greensboro, an MS in maternal and child health nursing from Boston University, and a BA in nursing from North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University, Greensboro. She received honorary doctorate of science degrees from the Ohio Medical College, Toledo, and Grand Valley State University, Allendale, Michigan. She lives in Alpharetta, Georgia, with her two sons, David and Steven Cantor.

Ernest J. Grant, RN, MSN
Ernest J. Grant is nursing education clinician for burn outcomes at the North Carolina Jaycees Burn Center at University of North Carolina Hospital in Chapel Hill. He serves as the center’s liaison to prehospital, hospital and allied health professionals and corporations, providing continuing education on the immediate care and prevention of burn injuries. Mr. Grant oversees the burn center’s prevention program.

Through his efforts, North Carolina became the first state to successfully implement the “Learn-Not-To-Burn” curriculum in every one of the state’s fourth-grade classes. He is launching a preschool version of the class across the state.

Mr. Grant has written numerous articles for publication in scientific and research journals and textbooks. He is completing two safety research projects that examine the impact of fireproof regulations on healthcare and fire-suppression costs.

A 2002 recipient of the Honorary Nurse Practitioner award bestowed by the American Nurses Association, Mr. Grant is also Nursing Spectrum magazine’s 2002 Nurse of the Year. He was awarded the Governor’s Award of Excellence in 1998, the highest honor given to a North Carolina state employee. Active in the promotion of the nursing profession, he served as vice president of the North Carolina Nursing Association from 1998 to 2000 and is consultant to the North Carolina Association of Nursing Students.

Mr. Grant holds an MS in nursing education from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro and a BS in nursing from North Carolina Central University at Durham. He received his practical nurse education (LPN) at Asheville-Buncombe Technical Community College in 1977.

Her dedication to cancer screening and detection in the African American community includes her role as president of the Columbus Black Nurses Association; board member of All Women, One Cause; and member of the Columbus Black Women’s Health Project. She is also a member of the Ohio Breast and Cervical Cancer Coalition, the Oncology Nursing Society and the National Black Leadership Initiative on Cancer. She is a volunteer with the American Cancer Society’s Embracing Wellness program.

In 2002 Ms. Holland was named Midwest Region Nurse of the Year by Nursing Spectrum magazine. She has received the Columbus Black Nurses Association Clinical Excellence Award, the Outstanding Employee Award from the Columbus Cancer Clinic and the William J. Hicks Excellence Award from the African American Cancer Support Group.

Ms. Holland received her nursing diploma from Ohio’s Grant Hospital School of Nursing in 1956. In 2002, she was selected to participate in an educational program through the Oncology Nursing Society in Miami, Fla. She also established a scholarship fund, named after her sons, for the Columbus Black Nurses Association to encourage the education of minority nurses. Ms. Holland is married to Benjamin Holland, a pharmacist, and has one son, David. Her second son, Jamal, passed away in 1986 at the age of 12.

Marvel King Davis, RN, MSN
Marvel King Davis is a floral nurse specialist in psychiatry. She is service manager for dual diagnosis at Yale-New Haven Psychiatric Hospital. She has been working with Yale-New Haven since 1989. In 1987, she worked as a psychiatric reviewer for Acra. In the early years of her career, she was the head nurse of the Day Hospital at the Connecticut Mental Health Center and staff nurse at the Yale Psychiatric Institute.

A lifelong learner, Ms. Davis received a teaching certificate from the Yale University/New Haven Teachers Institute, enabling her to become a family life educator at Hillhouse High School in New Haven. She served as director of the summer Infant Toddler Program for the New Haven Public School Family Life Program and was a board member of Planned Parenthood of New Haven. She currently serves as president of the board of directors of Dwellen Newhallville Community Mental Health Services.

In 2000, Ms. Davis received a Distinguished Alumni Citation from the Yale School of Nursing. She is an active member of the National Black Nurses Association, and in 2001 was named the organization’s historian. She is a past president of the Southern Connecticut Black Nurses Association.

Ms. Davis holds an MSW in psychiatric nursing from the Yale School of Nursing and a BSN from Seton Hall University. She was appointed by the Yale Council of Matrons to be a fellow of Cabot College, and she served on the board of governors of the Association of Yale Alumni. A New Haven resident, she and her husband, Reid Davis, have three sons.

Author of several articles, books, videos and workshops. Dr. Burnes Bolton co-edited the National Black Nurses Association Community Collaboration Model, which is utilized in more than 100 communities throughout the United States as a framework for improving community health. In February 2002, she was appointed by Health and Human Services Secretary Tommy G. Thompson to the National Advisory Council on Nursing Education and Practice, Division of Nursing, Bureau of Health Professions.

Dr. Burnes Bolton holds a BS in nursing from Arizona State University, and an MA in mental health and a PhD in public health from the University of California, Los Angeles.

Eleanor B. Butler, MS, RN
Eleanor B. Butler is a district supervising nurse for the New York City Department of Health, where she oversees District 1 in Lower Manhattan. Her career in nursing began in 1985, after she arrived in the United States from her native Bahamas, where she worked as a physiotherapist/clinical physiotherapist from 1968 to 1981.

In 1985, Ms. Butler became a staff nurse at Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital in Boston, Mass. She later worked as a health care facility inspector for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Department of Public Health, where she monitored the quality of care in long-term facilities.

In 1991, Ms. Butler entered the school environment as a staff nurse at Public School 146 in Manhattan. In 1991, she furthered her supervisory talents when she became the supervisor of nurses for the New York City Department of Education. There, she managed 100-150 nurses who cared for medically fragile children and students with special needs in Manhattan and the Bronx.

Ms. Butler is a member of the New York State Nurses Association and the Chartered Society of Physiotherapy, England. She was a presenter at the Caribbean Health Education Conference.

Ms. Butler holds an MS in education from Mercy College in New York; an MA in nursing administration from Teachers College at Columbia University; a BS in nursing from Boston University; and a BS in physical therapy from SUNY College at Buffalo University.

"Our patients provide us with as much knowledge," the Emory University Professor said. "We can learn so much about their bodies and their health by observing."

Ona believes health care must be a collaborative process. The key role for nurses, she said, is to assist patients in making the best decisions by providing health information. "Nurses make a tremendous impact on other people’s lives on a daily basis, whether you are a doctor, in the classroom, or in the laboratory," said the enthusiastic doll collector.

Consistent with her belief that God placed her here because we areefined, she is completely devoted to her 15- and 15-year-old sons. Her philosophy as a professional woman and mother is simple: “Careers are important, but if you fail at being a mother, you fail generation to come.”
Reserve University, and a diploma from the Ruth Brant School of Distinguished Nurse-Scholar, National Institute on Aging.

Case Western Reserve University; delegate to the White House Human Services, Office of Women's Health. She has a diverse back-
ground in nursing and has worked in numerous settings, including clinics, hospitals, and regional affiliations related to nursing education and primary care access. She is a fellow at the American Academy of Nursing. She has published in the premier professional nursing organization, the NBNA, and serves as a national resource for nurses.

In nursing, you can be anything you want to be — practitioner, educator, researcher, administrator, executive, researcher, consultant, congressional leaders, policy-maker, health advocate — to name a few of the many career possibilities. Nursing is evolving and growing at a rapid pace; what is important is that nurses are prepared to meet the needs of the patients they serve.

Ms. McGee-Igiozee received her BS in nursing from University of Houston, an MS in maternal-infant nursing from Catholic University of America and an EdD in higher education administration from the College of William and Mary. She is the mother of two adult children.
Through their work, lives have been saved. Because of their dedication, critical health care programs have been established. With passion and dignity, they have cultivated a profession that touches others in a powerful way. With perseverance, they have focused their energies on addressing health care disparities such as cardiovascular disease, cancer and diabetes within their own communities. With fortitude, they have conquered racial barriers.

For its 22nd anniversary edition, Aetna’s 2003 Calendar of African-American History celebrates the rich history and heritage of African Americans in the nursing profession. The calendar pays tribute to the struggles, successes and educational achievements of African American nurses, past and present, and proudly salutes some of the most dynamic and accomplished African American nurse leaders in the United States today.

Since 1982, Aetna has recognized the outstanding contributions of African Americans with this highly acclaimed publication. The calendar, which features both monthly profiles and significant historic events, has become an invaluable reference and educational tool in schools, libraries and homes across the country.

To date, the calendar has profiled more than 250 individuals—pioneers in fields such as business, government, athletics, science, education, medicine and the arts. From the award-winning playwright Loraine Hansberry and Olympic gold medal winner Florence Griffith-Joyner, to heart surgeon Dr. Daniel Hale Williams, and CEO and philanthropist Corner J. Cotterell Jr., all of the individuals featured have demonstrated great strength, perseverance and grace in succeeding in their chosen fields.

The history of African Americans is rich with contiguous and inspirational stories that touch every facet of American history and culture. With its 2003 calendar, Aetna is proud to honor the history of African American nurses, and we proudly salute the efforts of today’s nursing professionals who will delve into health care disparities and confront the future.

Nearly every aspect of nursing—education, research, clinical practice, administration and writing—is featured in this calendar. These profiles of achievement and commitment illustrate that a career in nursing provides countless opportunities and possibilities. The nursing profession is a model for continuing growth, development and change.

Discover what inspired these nurses to choose nursing and what their aspirations are for the future. Find out what makes each complete, as a person and as a professional. Live the rich heritage of African American nurses through a historical timeline and foreword written by respected author and black nurse historian Dr. M. Elizabeth Carnegie.

African American nurses have embraced a lifelong commitment to effect change within a profession that reaches back to the 1800s when nursing was a way of life. Place their stories.
WITH DIGNITY AND HONOR THEY SERVE THOSE IN NEED.

WITH COURAGE AND STAMINA THEY BREAK ALL BARRIERS.