



Nursing Notes

Welcome to the Fall/Winter 2014 issue of "Nursing Notes", the E-Newsletter for the University of North Carolina at Pembroke's Department of Nursing. To learn more about our program, please visit www.uncp.edu/nursing.



Important Dates

January 12, 2015

- ◆ Spring courses begin

January 15, 2015

- ◆ Last day to add/drop course

January 19, 2015

- ◆ Martin Luther King Jr. Day; University closed

February 27, 2015

- ◆ 1st 8 week courses end

March 2-6, 2015

- ◆ Spring break

March 11, 2015

- ◆ 2nd 8-week courses begin

May 8, 2015

- ◆ Graduate commencement

May 9, 2015

- ◆ Undergraduate commencement

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Message from the Chair

As 2014 draws to a close, I am pleased to share with you the Fall/Winter 2014 Department of Nursing e-Newsletter. Looking back on the year, I am most proud of the many achievements of our faculty, staff and students.

Of particular interest in this e-Newsletter are the multiple service learning activities of pre-nursing majors, junior and senior nursing students, and faculty. We are proud of our continued efforts to improve the health of individuals, families, and communities in the region.

The core strength of the Department of Nursing begins with the faculty and staff. Nursing faculty members continue to excel in teaching, scholarship, and service, and many of their accomplishments in 2014 are highlighted in this newsletter.

I would like to thank our donors, alumni, faculty, and staff for their support of the Department of Nursing. Without you, the accomplishments of the Department of Nursing would not be possible.

We would like to hear more from our alumni! Feel free to email Mary Baynes (mary.baynes@uncp.edu) with any personal and professional information you would like for us to share in a future e-Newsletter.

Happy Holidays to you and yours, and I wish you all the best in the coming year! Enjoy this edition of Nursing Notes!



*Barbara B. Synowiez, PhD, MSN, RN
Chair and Professor*

Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) Accreditation Visit

Everyone at the University of North Carolina at Pembroke is relieved that the Department of Nursing's Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) site visit is over. The Department hosted the site visit November 10-12, 2014. This visit was part of the process for seeking continuing nursing professional accreditation for the Baccalaureate Nursing Program and initial nursing professional accreditation for the Master's Nursing Program.

The Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education is an autonomous accrediting agency, which ensures the quality and integrity of professional nursing programs. As a voluntary, self-regulatory process, CCNE accreditation supports and encourages continuing self-assessment by nursing programs and supports continuing growth and improvement of collegiate professional nursing education.

Over the three-day period, the CCNE site review team members completed a thorough on-site visit of the Department of Nursing. I am pleased to share the result of the CCNE on-site visit and review of the nursing program. We had an excellent site review team and were given a very positive report at the end of the visit. In their exit report, the site visitors announced that the nursing program met the four (4) CCNE standards for accreditation. The four standards include: 1) mission and governance, 2) institutional commitment and resources, 3) curriculum, teaching-learning practices, and individual student learning outcomes, and 4) assessment and achievement of program outcomes.

While the official CCNE Board's accreditation decision will be delivered to us around May 2015, we are expecting a positive outcome based on the report of the visiting team prior to their departure. Thus, I am confident in saying - *Congratulations faculty, staff, students and community of interest. Our Baccalaureate Nursing Program will earn CCNE continuing accreditation for 10 years and the Master's Nursing Program will earn CCNE initial accreditation for 5 years. Both of the time periods are the maximum possible. Thank you all for your dedication and commitment to the Department of Nursing and ongoing achievement of excellence in nursing education.*



Report provided by Dr. Barbara Synowiez, Department Chair



RN-BSN UNCP Nursing Ranks 5th

The UNCP Department of Nursing RN-BSN completion program ranked 5th for best value colleges for nursing in the South. All schools in the Southern United States (defined as Virginia, West Virginia, Kentucky, Tennessee, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Mississippi, Alabama, Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, and Texas) were researched and narrowed to a list to include only those with net cost of less than \$22,000 per year. Several points of interest were researched including: freshman retention rate, graduation rates, student-to-faculty ratio, the percentage of courses taught by teaching assistants and undergraduate GPA requirements for admission. Flexibility in course delivery (online versus face-to-face) and NCLEX pass rates, which serve as reliable indicators of the quality of nursing courses and instruction, were also considered. After rating the colleges in each category, the top 30 programs were chosen as the Best Value Schools for RN-BSN degree programs. The UNCP Department of Nursing is proud of this recognition. To view the full article, visit the website by clicking [here](#).

Raleigh Family Contributes to UNCP Nursing



Nursing students and faculty welcome Robert and Anne Zucker with a standing ovation for their support of the program.

Robert and Anne Zucker have made a significant investment in the training of healthcare professionals at UNC Pembroke and in the health of an entire region. A gift from the Raleigh couple will allow UNCP's Nursing Department to deliver high-impact clinical instruction to the next generation of nurses.

For their dedication to UNCP nursing, the Zuckers were awarded the Charles R. Jenkins Friends of Nursing Award. It is named for the University's former chief academic officer who worked to bring nursing programs to the university. Today, UNCP nursing offers three programs: the four-year, prelicensure Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN), the RN-to-BSN completion program and the Master of Science in Nursing (MSN).

The family's gift allowed the University to purchase a state-of-the-art, wireless mannequin, Laerdal SimMan®3G, and a medium-fidelity mannequin, Laerdal Nursing Anne, with a price tag of \$95,000.

During their visit to UNC Pembroke on August 28, 2014, Robert and Anne Zucker had front row seats for a hospital drama. With the simulated patient playing one of the lead roles, the Zuckers got a front-row experience of nursing training at UNCP.

The computer-controlled mannequin, nicknamed "Bobby-Anne" by UNCP faculty and staff, has pulses, vital signs, lung function, reactive eyes, perspiration, and many other functions, allowing faculty to simulate real-life situations in a safe, effective learning environment.

With sons, David and Rob, the Zuckers watched as senior nursing student and Clinical Learning Center Hawk Assistant, Kasey Leggett attended to the patient as his condition deteriorated rapidly.

"You are doing a great job here with the nursing program," Robert Zucker said afterwards.

"That demonstration had a real wow factor," David Zucker said.

In thanking the family, Chancellor Kyle R. Carter said the University is "beginning to equate nursing at UNCP with the name Zucker. We have an excellent program with excellent faculty and students, and part of the reason is the technology you helped us provide for them."

Although they have no direct ties to UNCP, the Zuckers began their relationship with the nursing program in 2006, just as the four-year prelicensure program was launched. Nursing Department Chair, Dr. Barbara Synowiez stated, "The first time the Zuckers visited, we were located in Lumberton on Southeastern Health's campus. We have come a long way with your help. Thank you for your continuing support." The first gift was a charitable trust. The Zuckers' estate will contribute \$250,000 to establish an endowed professorship.

Robert Zucker explained, "We selected nursing because it is a profession that helps people, and it fits our business philosophy. Eastern North Carolina will certainly be happy to have good nurses."

The recognition ceremony was held in the Clinical Learning Center in August 2014. A group photo can be viewed on the cover of this E-newsletter.

*** Story details provided by an article written by Scott Bigelow, UNCP Public Communications Specialist.



Senior Kasey Leggett cares for "Bobby-Anne" as Dr. Cherry Beasley monitors her performance and provides guidance.

Faculty and Staff News

Department Welcomes New Faculty



Katharine Rocklein Kemplin, DNP, RN, CCEMTP, joined the faculty team in Summer 2014. Her clinical practice specialty is trauma and emergency nursing, to include instructing military and civilian courses in critical care, prehospital trauma and

critical care transport. Dr. Kemplin's Baccalaureate in Nursing Science (BNSc) is from Canada's top institution, Queen's University. She holds a Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) from Loyola University New Orleans, for which her focus was outcomes from combat polytrauma, specific to traumatic brain injury. Her scholarly work for her Doctorate in Nursing Practice (DNP) provided the first nurse-driven academic study of the practice-based evidence and curricular advancement of U.S. Army Special Operations Forces medics. She is currently in the Doctor of Philosophy (Nursing Science) program at Rush University College of Nursing and is a Jonas Foundation Veterans' Healthcare Scholar.

Dr. Kemplin has authored peer-reviewed publications specific to trauma and military healthcare, served on an Army Surgeons General initiative for warrior health, worked with Wounded Warrior medical research consortia, and was instrumental in highlighting DoD policies regarding poly-traumatic & brain injuries for which the purple heart is now awarded. She has held clinical and specialty positions at several military posts, including overseas, for which she received awards for achievements in trauma care, civilian and public service. Dr. Kemplin is the academic editor for the Journal of Special Operations Medicine and advises on integrating trauma & critical care nursing into battlefield medical care.

An avid fan and former player, Dr. Kemplin is certified by the International Rugby Board as an approved Medical & Healthcare Professional. Her husband, Ben – a rugger as well – live locally with their children.



John Toth, MSN, RN, joined the faculty team in Fall 2014. He graduated with his Baccalaureate of Science in Nursing (BSN) from Duquesne University School of Nursing in 1996. He worked in personal care setting from 1998 to 2001

as a caregiver. In 2001, he moved to work in a skilled nursing facility (SNF), first as a certified nursing assistant then as a registered nurse. While working in the SNF, he became interested in wound care and eventually became the wound care program facilitator. John worked at the SNF until 2004, when he had the opportunity to move into the acute care setting at Jefferson Hospital in Pittsburgh, PA. He worked on the Medical Progressive Care Unit (MPCU) until 2014. The MPCU was a step-down unit from the Intensive Care Unit (ICU). He was on the wound care and fall committees while working at Jefferson. The MPCU allowed John many different educational opportunities such as fulfilling the roles of charge nurse, supervisor, transferring critically ill patients, and working day to day with acutely ill patients within a medical and surgical environment. One of the opportunities that John experienced was working with the local community college students. From this, John decided to further his own education and, in December 2013, earned his Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) with a concentration in education. John was working part-time with Allegheny County Community College while still working full-time at the local hospital.

In 2014 he was hired as a full-time faculty for the University of North Carolina at Pembroke Department of Nursing as an Assistant Clinical Professor. Mr. Toth will be providing instruction in Adult Health I and II.

Faculty and Staff News

Department Welcomes New Faculty



Debbie Locklear, MSN, RN, joined the faculty team in Summer 2014.

Ms. Locklear received her Associate Degree in Nursing (ADN) from

Robeson Community College in 1989, her Bachelor of Science in Nursing from the University of North Carolina at Pembroke in 2005 and her Master of Science in Nursing from the University of Phoenix in 2011.

Ms. Locklear's clinical experience includes urgent care, emergency nursing, medical-surgical nursing and occupational health.

Ms. Locklear teaches in Foundations of Professional Nursing Practice, Adult Health Nursing I and Family Nursing I.



Misty Stone, MSN, RN, joined the faculty team in Summer 2014. She began her nursing career as a licensed practical nurse (LPN) from Southeastern

Community College, and, in 2009, she earned her Associates Degree in Nursing (ADN) from Southeastern Community College. Her Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) was earned from the University of North Carolina at Wilmington in 2011 and her Master of Science in Nursing from Western Governors University in 2013.

Mrs. Stone's clinical experience includes home health, nurse recruitment and nursing management for a home health agency. She served as an adjunct clinical faculty for Southeastern Community College prior to becoming employed at UNCP.

Mrs. Stone teaches in Foundations of Professional Nursing Practice, Adult Health Nursing I, Normal and Therapeutic Nutrition, Family Nursing I and II and Capstone for the RN-BSN program.



Amanda Jeffries, MSN, RN, joined the faculty team in Fall 2014. She received her Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) from East Carolina University in 2005 and her Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) from East Carolina University in 2013.

Ms. Jeffries' clinical experiences include the roles of staff nurse, charge nurse and preceptor in the medical, neurological and cardiac intensive care units (ICUs).

Ms. Jeffries served as adjunct clinical faculty for UNCP's Adult Health I nursing course prior to gaining full-time employment at UNCP. Ms. Jeffries taught in Adult Health I and Health Assessment Across the Lifespan for junior students this fall.

Teaching

Nursing Faculty Bring the Lab Alive



Faculty continue to do great things in the classroom as well as in the Clinical Learning Center. Newly admitted students from the Class of 2016 hit the ground running during

second summer session and completed their first two foundational nursing courses prior to beginning the fall semester consisting of courses such as pharmacology, adult health, health assessment and nutrition, all of which can be pulled together in the lab setting. In addition to learning basic psychomotor skills and working with low fidelity mannequins, students became familiar with our high fidelity simulators, one of which spent the semester in the health assessment lab while the other remained in the inpatient unit so that students could provide post-operative nursing care and education. Pictured are faculty members Mrs. Misty Stone (top) and

Dr. Kate Kemplin (right) helping students to become acquainted with our simulated patients, their functions and how we plan to utilize them during simulation.



Senior students Armando Alvarez, Jonathan Dent, Jennie Beldon and Miriah Adams know from personal experience that power and strength are not necessarily a product of size alone. Dr. Cherry Beasley role-played a client who was suffering from an acute episode of posttraumatic stress and

was out-of-control, requiring students to work together as a team to calm her down and safely apply restraints so that she would not be a danger to herself or to others. As the picture demonstrates, this task was not an easy one, but in the end, the students were able to work together to achieve their goal. Nobody was hurt, and the experience truly provided students the opportunity to experience the importance of safety, teamwork and collaboration during unexpected client care situations.

This scenario was one of several scenarios offered to seniors enrolled in the psychiatric mental health nursing course, allowing them to experience a variety of acute situations in a safe, supportive environment. Feedback was obtained using the NLN Simulation Design Scale, and results were extremely positive with students expressing a desire for more of these experiences in the future.



For the first time, but hopefully not the last, the department of nursing and the UNCP theater department have joined forces. Students enrolled in theater/acting courses at UNCP volunteered their time to step into the roles of college students who were involved in a MVA secondary to driving while drinking and texting. Senior students enrolled in the senior-level psychiatric mental health nursing course were challenged to deal with a multitude of issues including substance abuse, death and dying, survival guilt and suicidal ideation. A special thanks to the psych-mental health nursing faculty team, Dr. Tiffany Tyson, Dr. Cherry Beasley and Mrs. Jennifer Jones-Locklear as well as Dr. Holden Hansen who provide his students extra incentives to participate in our efforts.

Teaching

MSN Program Enters Second Year

The MSN program provides registered nurses with the opportunity to build expertise in a specialized area of practice while enhancing their skills in theory and research in professional practice. Specific specialty areas offered include the roles of Nurse Educator, Clinical Nurse Leader and Rural Case Manager.

The program is in its second year and students are currently completing required clinical hours associated with their chosen specialty. Pictured to the right are Melonie Moody and Chantal Stanfield, current MSN students enrolled in the Nurse Educator track presenting information regarding syphilis and condom use to UNCP students visiting the Health Sciences Building.

Members of the first class are scheduled to graduate in May 2015. Applications are now being accepted for 2015 admission. The new promotional video for our MSN program can be viewed on YouTube by clicking [here](#).



First RIBN Cohort

The SouthCentral NC Regionally Increasing Baccalaureate Nurses (RIBN) Program admitted its first cohort of students in Fall 2014. This program will provide a seamless associate to baccalaureate nursing education for top academic students. The first three years of study will be at one of the partner community colleges in collaboration with UNCP. Upon successful completion of the first three years and after passing the National

Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN), students will be eligible to practice and matriculate into the fourth year of the program at UNCP.

The program targets high school students with little to no college credits. To qualify for this program, students must have a minimum of 3.0 GPA. The average GPA of the first cohort of students accepted into the program was a 3.5.

For more information about the program, visit <http://www.uncp.edu/academics/colleges-schools-departments/departments/nursing/programs/ribn-program>.



Scholarship

Faculty Presentations

- ◇ Dr. Jennifer Johnson and Joyce Beard—Poster presentation at Drexel University Education Institute; June 2014; *“Writing enrichment: Improving writing skills through community-based service learning.”*



- ◇ Dr. Dena Evans and Martha Hepler—Poster presentation at the 2014 National League for Nursing (NLN) Education Summit; September 2014; *“Using the Simulation Design Scale and Educational Practices Questionnaire to evaluate the effectiveness of simulation in the acquisition of leadership skills.”*



- ◇ Dr. Katharine Kemplin—Two poster presentations at the Special Operations Medical Association Scientific Assembly; December 2014. *“And now to teach it: A model for prolonged field care curriculum & training”* and with the 10th special forces group and battalion surgeon — *“Prolonged field care training pathway.”*

- ◇ Dr. Katharine Kemplin—Podium presentation at the Special Operations Medical Association Scientific Assembly; December 2014. *“The proposed special operations medical association young investigator & mentorship program.”*

Research Initiatives

- ◇ Dr. Dena Evans and Dr. Barbara Synowiez, *“Ability of the TEAS (Test of Essential Academic Skills) to predict student success in nursing school.”*
- ◇ Dr. Cherry Beasley, team of UNCP and UNC-CH faculty, *“Center for Diabetes Translation Research to reduce disparities (CDTR) pilot and feasibility program.”*

Grant Initiatives

- ◇ *North Carolina RIBN Project*—Polly Johnson (CEO—Foundation for Nursing Excellence), South Central NC Collaborative (Dr. Barbara Synowiez, Dr. Cherry Beasley, Eva Meekins, Cheryl McNeill, Al West, Carole Gibson) and other select schools of nursing in NC (Funded)

Faculty Recognitions

- ◇ Dr. Katharine Kemplin nominated to be 2016 Research Chair for the Special Operations Medical Association Scientific Assembly.
- ◇ Dr. Katharine Kemplin enrolled in PhD program at Rush University.
- ◇ Astrid Oviedo—enrolled in PhD program at UNC Greensboro
- ◇ Joyce Beard—enrolled in PhD program at UNC Greensboro
- ◇ Jennifer Jones-Locklear—enrolled in PhD program at East Carolina University
- ◇ April Ventura—enrolled in PhD program at East Carolina University
- ◇ Jennifer Coughenour earns her certification as Clinical Nurse Leader (CNL), through the American

Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN)

- ◇ Martha Hepler earns Certified Healthcare Simulation Educator (CHSE) certification through the Society for Simulation in Healthcare



Martha Hepler is 1 of 20 educators chosen nationally for participation in the 2015 National League for Nursing (NLN) Leadership Development Program

for Simulation Educators. During this year-long program, participants examine issues related to research in simulation, curricular integration, the role of simulation in interprofessional education and managing simulation activities within a school of nursing or service setting. The program fosters individual growth, interpersonal interactions within the group and networking with previous cohorts. The program begins with a face-to-face meeting at the 2015 NLN Leadership Conference in February and continues with conference calls, webinars and forum discussions throughout the year.



In December, 2014, Dr. Dena Evans earned her Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) degree with a focus of Clinical Nurse Leader from the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.

In July, 2014, Dr. Evans passed the American

Association of Colleges of Nursing’s (AACN) certification exam to become a certified Clinical Nurse Leader (CNL). In practice, the CNL oversees the care coordination and integration of care for a distinct group of patients and “puts evidence-based practice into action to ensure that patients benefit from the latest innovations in care delivery” (AACN).

Service Learning



As part of their community health rotation, students measured 150 blood pressures for citizens of Hoke County during the 2014 Hoke County Turkey Festival. **Left to right:** Joyce Beard, Casey Horne, Lindsey Bullock, Melissa King, Tracy Martin and April Ventura.



During Pembroke Day, students provided education specific to sugar content in common foods and drinks as well as the warning signs of diabetes. **Left to right:** Mary Jo Watterson, Amanda Hatcher, Jessica Broadwell and Kasey Leggett.



During Pembroke Day, students provided education regarding the effects of a high salt intake in the diet. **Left to right:** Tiffany Oxendine, Deanna Coleman, Janet Dove, Marquilla Avila and Davena McLemore.

Service Learning

Seniors also participated in service learning during their psychiatric mental-health nursing course. In addition to offering information regarding common mental health concerns in the area, they also worked collaboratively with the UNCP Counseling & Psychological Services (CAPS) to conduct screenings for anxiety, depression and post-traumatic stress.



Keri Hughes, Jennie Beldon, Nicole Tessier, Miriah Adams and Armado Alvarez



Shannon Merwin, Kayla Watts, Sosie Daniels, Jonathan Dent, Yarelin Almazan

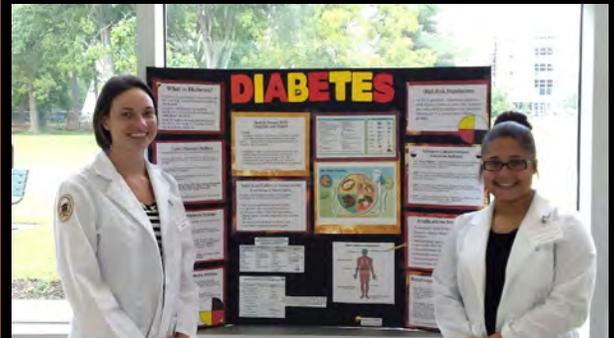


Kassidy Burr, Janet Dove, Allison Taylor and Heejin Yun conducting screen-

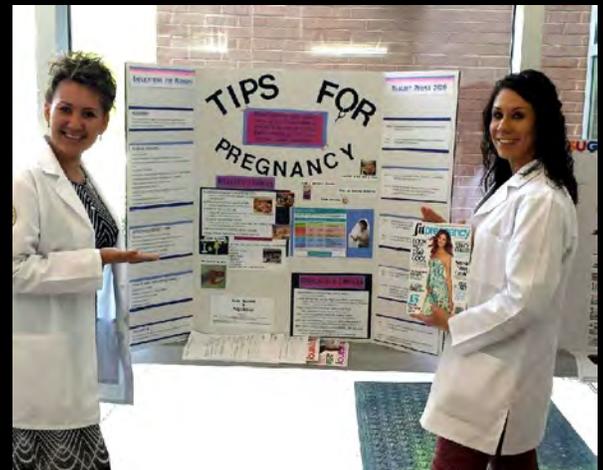
Junior nursing students also provided education in the main lobby of the Health Sciences building as part of the requirement for their nutrition course.



Rebecca Taurins and Shannon Sims



Mara Hunt and Krystal Lowery



Guzal Gareeva Ingram and Paige Becker

Service



Pre-Nursing and Nursing Students Strive to “Be the Match”

In September, 2014, UNCP pre-nursing and nursing majors joined forces to assist members from the “Be the Match” program to obtain swab samples for an astonishing 293 potential bone marrow donors. Freshman and sophomore pre-nursing majors who participate in the Discover Nursing: Living, Learning, Leading Community (DNL3C) program along with junior nursing students and nursing faculty members, Joyce Beard and Martha Hepler, all participated in the event, held at Givens Performing Arts Center (GPAC) on the UNCP campus. The nursing department hosted its first marrow drive in April during the 2014 Relay for Life campaign.

WAY TO GO, FUTURE NURSES!!

Summer Migrant Academy

In June, 2014, senior nursing student, Tracy Martin traveled with faculty from the Clinical Learning Center (CLC) to Raeford, NC, to speak to children participating in the Summer Migrant Academy. This grant-funded program provides children various educational opportunities over a two-week period. Various speakers were scheduled to speak to the children about various professions and to get them excited about going to school. The focus for this particular day was biology, and Tracy utilized various models from the CLC to teach kids about the human body. Of course, the profession of nursing was incorporated into discussions, and the children were AMAZED by SimBaby!



Student News

Association of Nursing Students (ANS) Elect Officers for 2014-2014

Voting members of the ANS held elections in September 2014. This year's officers are:

President	Vice-President	Secretary	Treasurer	Senior Executive	Junior Executive	Breakthrough to the Nursing Director
						
Casey Horne	Cara Kellogg-Cooley	Tracy Martin	Miriah Adams	Keri Hughes	Rebecca Taurins	Melissa King



The ANS has a strong group of future nurses leading the organization, and the department of nursing anticipates that great things will occur because of their efforts. Their final activity for the Fall 2014 semester consisted of a toy drive. All proceeds were donated to the Moore County Coalition for Human Care. Plans are already being made to prepare for the 2015 UNCP Relay for Life event, which consistently receives a tremendous amount of effort and support from the faculty and students within the Department of Nursing.

Students Screen for Diabetes

In November, 2014, student members of the Association of Nursing Students (ANS) volunteered to participate in the Fall 2014 Health Fair sponsored by the Pembroke Housing Authority. Students (left to right) Kasey Leggett, Sarah Smith and Brittany Eberman offered free blood sugar checks and conducted diabetes risk assessments (American Diabetes Association). In addition to diabetes awareness, students provided educational literature covering cancer and cancer prevention, including information for healthy diets, cancer risk factors and resources for smoking cessation (handouts courtesy of the American Cancer Society).



Alumni News

Pre-licensure Graduates



◆ Jennifer Wyatt Flynn, Class of 2012, and her husband welcomed their first child, a baby boy name Wyatt, in July 2014.



◆ Jamie Martinez, Class of 2012, and her husband welcome their first child, a son name Logan, in August 2014. Jamie has also been promoted to Assistant Clinical Officer in charge of 4S at Womack.



◆ Nikki Jackson, Class of 2013, and her husband welcomed their first child, a son named Nick, in March 2014.



◆ Hannah Johnson, Class of 2014, and Samuel Bailey were married in December 2014.

RN-BSN Graduates



◆ Kathy Walters Locklear, Class of 1999, will assume the role of Director of Behavioral Health, a division of Southeastern Health. Kathy was the 1999 recipient of the Dorothy Orum Award.

We hope you have enjoyed reading about all of the wonderful and exciting accomplishments of the UNCP Department of Nursing. Please contact us with any questions and/or comments you may have. We would love to hear from you.

If you are alumni, please drop in or send us a message letting us know where you are, what you are doing and any accomplishments you would like to share so we can include them in our future newsletters!



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