

NURSING

VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY
MEDICAL CENTER

Transforming patient care through professional practice

May/June 2020



A newsletter
from the office
of the Executive
Chief Nursing
Officer

Marilyn Dubree,
MSN, RN,
NE-BC

IN THIS ISSUE

[2020 Nursing Honors](#)

[Download VUMC2go to connect to COVID updates](#)

[Dubree wins state advocate award from AANP](#)

[Nurses Week, Year of Nurse proclaimed in Metro](#)

STATE OF NURSING HAS SURPRISE VISITOR

Like virtually all large meetings these days, the 2020 State of Nursing Address was conducted via teleconference, on Zoom.

This year's event, held May 19, was attended by nearly 600 from their homes, offices and nurses stations and featured a surprise visitor. The address was part of VUMC's ongoing recognition of National Nurses Week and 2020 being the Year of Nurse, which honors the 200th birthday of Florence Nightingale.

Wright Pinson, MBA, MD, Deputy CEO and Chief Health Systems Officer, kicked off the event by thanking VUMC's nursing workforce for their unwavering effort and commitment during the coronavirus pandemic.

"You have stepped up, passed every barrier and overcome every obstacle and continued to deliver exceptional, efficient and compassionate care to our patients and to each other during these unprecedented times," Pinson said.

"You are an inspiration to all of us, not just at the Medical Center but across the city and the region. I am truly humbled to think where we would be without our exceptional nurses. You are a gift to the world." Pinson introduced Marilyn Dubree, MSN, RN, Executive Chief Nursing

[continued on page 2](#)

Nurses Week is a special time each year, and this year was no exception. With our social distancing practices in place, it was very different than normal, but every bit as special.

In this issue, you will read about our virtual State of Nursing and the special guest we welcomed over Zoom. Thanks to our amazing nurses for the creativity to make this such a memorable program.

Please take a moment to salute the winners of our 2020 Nursing Honors. These nurses represent the very best in each of our entities across the enterprise.

Nurses Week was also celebrated throughout Nashville in the form of an official proclamation. Details are inside.

Thank you again for all of your extraordinary efforts during an extraordinary time. There is a reason why nursing is consistently chosen as the most admired profession. I believe we will look back on this part of our lives proudly for the compassionate care of our patients and families.

Enjoy this issue,

Officer, who outlined some of the awards, achievements and contributions of VUMC Nursing over the past year, including the integration of Vanderbilt Wilson County Hospital, the opening of new clinics and programs across the region and substantial progress in quality, service and innovation — all while dealing with a pandemic that has upended the entire world.

“This year has not been what we expected, and we find ourselves facing the biggest challenge of our professional lifetimes,” Dubree said. “We’re doing that by staying focused on safety — for our patients and for each other — on communication among ourselves and across the city and on pacing, determining how we respond, ramp up, and now reopen.”

The nearly 7,000 nurses at VUMC have demonstrated the best in nursing practice, education and innovation and shown incredible flexibility, resilience and bravery.

“You have walked into spaces where you didn’t know what would happen, whether they were in patient’s homes, intensive care units, clinics or parking garages converted to testing centers. You made thousands of phone calls to patients and patient families,



Country superstar Brad Paisley was the special guest at the virtual State of Nursing, which took place on Zoom.

cross trained others to fill in other positions, screened fellow employees and wrote policies and protocols again and again as circumstances changed,” Dubree said.

“You stood with patients sick and not sick. You communicated with families that could not visit and helped be a bridge for them. You are an inspiration to all of us who are honored to work with you. The Medical Center and the entire Nashville community is proud of you. I know Florence Nightingale is.”

Dubree then introduced Jay Wellons, MD, MSPH, professor of Neurological Surgery and Pediatrics and chief of Pediatric Neurosurgery at Monroe Carell Jr. Children’s Hospital at Vanderbilt. He also thanked nurses for their tireless efforts to care for patients, families and co-workers.

Wellons also spoke about the importance of personal protective equipment (PPE) and was about to outline in depth some of the efforts

underway to re-sterilize N95 masks when the teleconference was crashed by an unexpected guest — country music superstar Brad Paisley.

The singer was appearing from his home, guitar in hand and sense of humor fully engaged.

“Sorry to interrupt Jay, but I think I just saved everyone from losing an hour and a half that they would never get back,” Paisley quipped. “Seriously though, it’s an incredible thing to see what y’all are doing and I wanted to thank you for that.”

Dubree and Wellons introduced Paisley to several VUMC nurses who shared some of their stories of helping patients, families and each other.

Paisley then played a few songs, including part of his latest hit, “Ain’t no I in beer,” which mentions nurses and first responders.

“I’ve always had this feeling of being thankful for having Vanderbilt in Nashville. Having this kind of expertise and compassion and dedication here is amazing,” Paisley said.

“Let’s all have a happy hour when this is all said and done. God bless you and thank you for taking care of Nashville.”

2020 NURSING HONORS

Rosamond Gabrielson Staff Nurse of the Year

Vanderbilt University Adult Hospital

Allison Jagoda, BSN, BS, MS, RN, CEP-ACSM, CVICU



Jagoda

Monroe Carell Jr. Children's Hospital at Vanderbilt

Stevie Crossland, BSN, RN, Radiology Recovery



Crossland

Vanderbilt Psychiatric Hospital

Savannah Young, BSN, RN-BC, Adult CSL Team C



Young

Vanderbilt Adult Ambulatory Clinics

Brenda Weedman, BSN, RN, CDE, Vanderbilt Eskind Diabetes Center



Weedman

Rebecca Clark Culpepper Education & Mentorship

Rachel Hoppe, RN, 4 East Obstetrics, Vanderbilt University Adult Hospital

Nancy Wells Research and Evidence-Based Practice

Glendyle Levinkas, BSN, RN, CNOR, Main OR Trauma/Renal, Vanderbilt University Adult Hospital



Levinkas

Adrienne Ames Transformational Leadership

Sherise Stogner, RN, ACRN, Nurse Case Manager/Charge Nurse, Comprehensive Care and Infectious Disease Clinics, Vanderbilt Adult Ambulatory Clinics



Hoppe



Stogner

2020 NURSING HONORS

Jerita Payne Advanced Practice Nurse of the Year

Leilani Jane Mason, MSN, CNM, FACNM, OBGYN Nurse Practitioner and Midwife, Vanderbilt Adult Ambulatory Clinics



Mason

Nursing Professional Development

Megan Unfried, MSN, RN, NPD-BC, PCCN, VUMC Embedded NES, Nursing Education Specialist for VUAH Cardiology Stepdown, Vanderbilt University Adult Hospital



Unfried

Friend of Nursing

J. Armando Medina, CMI, Interpreter Services, Vanderbilt University Medical Center

Licensed Practical Nurse of the Year

Donald R. (Trey) Harris III, LPN, GI Clinic - Nolensville Primary Care and Walk-in Clinic, Vanderbilt Adult Ambulatory Clinics

Team Award

Enhanced Recovery After Surgery (ERAS) team

Drew Walls BSN, RN

Jennifer Jayaram, MSN, APRN-BC

Shana Parks, RN

Hillary Samaras, RN

Faith Howard, LPN

Edward Land, RN

Tessa Horst, MSN, RN

Matthew McEvoy, MD

Timothy Geiger, MD, MMHC

Madeline Torrez, MSN, APRN

Diane Johnson MSN, RN, NE-BC

Rusty Catlin, PharmD

Troy Loewen

Heidi Potts

Alisa Phillips

Brandi Cherry

Blake Buchert, MHA, CHFP

Lane Stiles

Ben Hopkins, MD

Teresa Hobt-Bingham, MSN, RN, NE-BC

Jon Wanderer, MD

Justin Young

Teri Huff, MHA, BSN, RN

Lindsay Miller, MSN, RN, NE-BC

Ryan Starnes

Karen Hale, MSN, RN



Medina



Harris



DOWNLOAD VUMC2GO TO CONNECT TO COVID UPDATES

A new mobile app connects members of the Vanderbilt University Medical Center community to current COVID-19 news and updates with just a few taps of the finger.

Vumc2go complements the website, [VUMC.org/coronavirus](https://www.vumc.org/coronavirus), by distilling the resources the workforce needs about medical center preparation, operations, and



employee impact. It is updated daily alongside the continuing daily emails and website updates. It is downloadable on Apple iOS and Android.

Install MDM to access the VUMC App Store with Hub to get vumc2go at this address:

<https://www.vumc.org/enterprise/cybersecurity/mobile-device-management-mdm-faqs>

DUBREE RECEIVES STATE ADVOCATE AWARD FROM AANP

Executive Chief Nursing Officer Marilyn Dubree, MSN, RN, NE-BC, has received the 2020 Advocate State Award for Excellence for Tennessee from the American Association of Nurse Practitioners (AANP).

Every year, AANP recognizes outstanding achievements by nurse practitioners (NPs) and NP advocates in each state. Established in 1991, the State Award for Excellence recognizes an NP in each state who demonstrates excellence in clinical practice. In 1993, the state award for NP advocates was added to recognize people who have made a significant contribution toward increasing the awareness and recognition of NPs.

Past recipients of the award have included physicians, legislators and educators. NPs are also eligible for the advocate award for

non-clinical practice initiatives related to leadership, precepting, policy, politics, research, education or community affairs.

"It is truly an honor to receive this recognition from the AANP," Dubree said. "Vanderbilt is a leading center of advanced practice professionals in the nation, and I am proud to serve with them every day."

The AANP is the largest organization of nurse practitioners in the country, with more than 106,000 members. Nurse practitioners and their advanced practice colleagues, physician assistants, make up more than 300,000 clinicians nationwide and more than 1,200 at Vanderbilt alone. These clinicians are educated in nationally accredited programs, clinically trained and board certified in their area of practice.

NURSES WEEK, YEAR OF NURSE PROCLAIMED IN METRO

In honor of the 200-year anniversary of the birth of Florence Nightingale, the Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County and the Office of Mayor John Cooper issued a "Proclamation Recognizing May 6-12, 2020, as National Nurses Week and Celebrating 2020 as Year of the Nurse."

Nightingale was born May 12, 1820, and is acknowledged as the founder of modern nursing.

The proclamation recognizes that Nashville is home to more than 11,000 registered nurses and more than 2,000 advance practice nurses who play a vital role in providing health care to patients of the community.

In addition, to say thank you to nurses everywhere, the city lit the Korean War Veterans Memorial Bridge in downtown Nashville in their honor.