Out Front on COVID
Passion, courage, and expertise on the front lines

Class of 1970
An outpouring of nursing spirit at 50th anniversary

Anatomy of a Nurse
One of the silver linings of the COVID-19 pandemic has been increased recognition of nurses and the depth and breadth of our work. From researcher to clinician, infectious disease specialist to social justice advocate, nurses are diverse, and we wear uniforms that are hardly one-size-fits-all.

In “The Anatomy of a Hopkins Nurse” (Page 24), we take a microscope to the inner workings of Hopkins Nurses and shine a light on the diverse roles, backgrounds, cultures, and experiences that make up our profession. We dive into the anatomy of Keith Boettiger (Page 51), an alumnus who has used his nursing background to ensure quality control of medical devices for people with chronic pain. And within Beatrice Marseille (Page 25), we see an anatomy so diverse it ranges from entrepreneur to service coordinator to preceptor. You can even chart your own anatomy as a nurse.

And it’s also our diversity that has given us the strength and resolve to stay courageous and committed during the COVID-19 pandemic. We are sincerely proud of two awards in this area: The HEED Award for Diversity (Page 11) and a recognition as a Best School for Men in Nursing (Page 13). As our world continues to deal with the ripple effects of this unprecedented virus, Hopkins Nurses are using their expertise to make an impact. Jason Farley, an outspoken advocate for common-sense public health measures, has served as a media spokesperson for mask wearing, social distancing, and handwashing (Page 29). And Vinciya Pandian, a world-renowned researcher on the use of ventilators, worked quickly to safeguard both COVID patients and health care personnel (Page 29).

Whether you’re a nurse practitioner or a clinical nurse specialist (Page 26), or still en route to your final nursing destination, one thing that binds us together is a calling to heal, help, and make a difference to families and communities. We each live for a unique purpose, and yet we’re all under the umbrella we call nursing. It’s what makes our profession one of the best and most influential. The opportunities are boundless, and no two anatomies are the same.

Please enjoy the issue.

Patricia M. Davidson
PhD, MEd, RN, FAAN
Dean, Johns Hopkins School of Nursing
For DNP student Khushbu Patel, great strides even while staying in place
Researcher Phyllis Sharps looks toward making even more of a difference in communities before she sails into the sunset.

Learn more about Phyllis Sharps’s groundbreaking efforts to protect women from intimate partner violence at NURSING.JHU.EDU/DOVE
Patricia Davidson, PhD, MEd, RN, FAAN, a global leader in cardiac health and the care of vulnerable populations who has served as dean of the Johns Hopkins University School of Nursing since 2013, will leave the university in April to become vice-chancellor of the University of Wollongong in her native Australia. She becomes the first woman, first nurse, and first alumna to serve as vice-chancellor of Wollongong, a public research university on Australia’s east coast, about 50 miles south of Sydney. She will begin her new role on May 1.

“We will miss her deeply as a leader and a champion for Hopkins nurses, knowing we are stronger for the impact she has made on the school and the Johns Hopkins community,” says Johns Hopkins University President Ronald J. Daniels. “Trish leaves the School of Nursing poised to build on its excellent foundation and ready to play a leading role in international nursing for years to come.”

Davidson, who spent 23 years as a frontline clinician and nurse manager before shifting her focus to research and teaching, became the fourth dean in the School of Nursing’s history in September 2013. During her tenure, the school has remained one of the world’s premier destinations for nursing education and is ranked No. 1 for nursing graduate programs by U.S. News & World Report.

“Starting my career in Wollongong, Australia, in the late ’70s, I would have never dreamt that I would have had the opportunity to be the dean of the Johns Hopkins School of Nursing,” Davidson says. “I will sorely miss Baltimore and my many friends and will always be a passionate advocate for the university and the values that guide our work. I am so thankful for the trust placed in me to lead this exceptional school.”

Under Davidson’s leadership, the school transitioned to an exclusive focus on graduate-level instruction and has introduced a range of new graduate programs in recent years with notable collaborations across the university. The Doctor of Nursing Practice/Master of Business, Doctor of Nursing Practice/Master of Public Health, Doctor of Nursing Practice/Nurse Anesthesiology, and Doctor of Nursing Practice/Doctor of Philosophy are examples of cross-cutting programs meeting the contemporary needs of health care and preparing the next generation of leaders.

Davidson has strengthened the School of Nursing’s commitment to research, increasing scholarly publications by 15 percent and sponsored submissions by 51 percent. She has also deepened the school’s commitment of alums, donors, friends, and foundations through an ambitious fundraising agenda—one manifestation of which is the opening of a renovated and reimagined School of Nursing building later this year.

Dean to Follow Her Dream Home

Accepts a top post at Australian alma mater

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Members of the Spring 2021 cohort of the MSN (Entry into Nursing) program show off the white coats presented by Johns Hopkins School of Nursing donors to celebrate the start of their nursing journeys. Coats arrived with messages of pride and inspiration from the donors themselves and a request to share photos from wherever students happened to be.

See more white coat images and many more snapshots from the life of the school at FLICKR.COM/PHOTOS/HOPKINSNURSING/ALBUMS
For a third consecutive year, the Johns Hopkins School of Nursing has earned the Health Professions Higher Education Excellence in Diversity (HEED) Award from INSIGHT Into Diversity magazine for outstanding commitment to diversity and inclusion.

“Diversity and inclusion are about everyday actions, welcoming differences, and being intentional in the way we work with and support our communities locally and globally,” says Dean Patricia Davidson, PhD, MEd, RN, FAAN. “It is our mission to promote and integrate diversity into our curriculum, community, and scholarship, and we are proud to be recognized for this among our peers.”

Throughout the year, the school launched or continued many initiatives that strategically and intentionally advance diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI). One notable initiative includes working groups of faculty, students, staff, and community members who focus on using teaching and learning methods as a pathway to ensuring DEI. Within the faculty population, 29 percent are from racial or ethnic minorities and 13 percent are men. Among the students, 36 percent are from racial and ethnic minorities, and 12 percent are men.

“Our profession is a leader in bringing the importance of DEI to the light, particularly within health care,” says Gloria Ramsey, JD, RN, FNAP, FAAN, associate dean for diversity, equity, and inclusion. “We hope that the experiences we provide at the Johns Hopkins School of Nursing prepare our students to be leaders for change. Amazing things happen when we, as a growing group of nurse leaders, speak up and work together as we serve our diverse communities.”

To celebrate the 30th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), the school hosted community members from across Johns Hopkins, the government, and the nation to recognize the history of how Americans living with a disability were treated, barriers that have been removed as of 2020, and suggestions for how actions, conversations, and policies can further promote inclusivity and more equal opportunities.
For the second year in a row, the Johns Hopkins School of Nursing has been named a 2020 Best School for Men in Nursing by the American Association for Men in Nursing (AAMN) for creating an inclusive environment for men who want to become professional nurses or advance their nursing careers.

“We are proud of our efforts to build a diverse pipeline of nurses, particularly for our support of men, who bring needed perspective and experience to our profession,” says Dean Patricia Davidson, PhD, MEd, RN, FAAN. “Especially now, our world needs competent and credentialed nurses across all genders, backgrounds, and experiences in order to provide the best health outcomes for the populations we serve.”

Ranked the No. 1 accredited master’s nursing program in the country by U.S. News & World Report, JHSON fosters diversity, equity, and inclusion and acknowledges their relation to driving health care innovation and outcomes. The school’s Men in Nursing student organization is an official chapter of the AAMN. The group hosts activities and events including career panels, mentoring, community outreach, and is involved in the school’s Open Houses, Accepted Students Day programs, new student orientations, and other key events.

Watch the new video “A Place for You in Nursing, #MenInNursing” at: nursing.jhu.edu/aplaceforyou

Association Names JHSON a Best School for Men in Nursing

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Research Center on Disability Care

Through a $4.3 million grant, the Johns Hopkins School of Nursing has become a national center—REsilience RRTC—dedicated to improving health and function of people with disabilities as well as that of their caregivers. REsilience RRTC is short for Research and Education to Support the Science of Independent Living for Inclusion and Engagement: National Center of Excellence Rehabilitation Research and Training Centers. Funding is from the National Institute on Disability, Independent Living, and Rehabilitation Research.

“This is such a tremendous opportunity to grow disability research and family caregiving research working with many types of family caregivers who have been understudied and under-recognized in current research,” says Sarah Santon, PhD, RN, ANP, FAAN, the center’s director.

Key initiatives for the center:
- Test new ways of delivering the Chicago Parent Program and CAPABLE—evidence-based research programs at the school.
- Develop a program for caregivers who themselves have physical or sensory disabilities.
- Use what’s learned to influence policy and offer plain-language fact sheets to health care organizations and the community.

Human-centered design principles, such as engaging end users for continuous feedback, will inspire research and dissemination methods. Sustainability will be a crucial element to help move research from trials to more long-term solutions.

Learn more at: nursing.jhu.edu/ResilienceRRTC

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- Online delivery gives flexibility and accessibility to students around the world
- Adds to your current experience to take your career to the next level
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“I have used the knowledge gained from the lectures in many everyday conversations. Dr. Chocken is a genius, and the passion she and her colleagues have for public health radiates in each lecture. That passion is why the Bloomberg School of Public Health ranks #1 in the nation.”
—Misti Price, Patient Safety and Healthcare Quality MAS program

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Our Online Programs for Applied Learning (OPAL) are a gem of an opportunity.
Five additional faculty members of the Johns Hopkins School of Nursing have been inducted as fellows of the American Academy of Nursing, an honor celebrating their accomplishments and leadership in education, practice, and research.

“These faculty have demonstrated remarkable commitment to our profession and to the continual pursuit of better health and well-being for people around the world,” says Dean Patricia Davidson, PhD, MEd, RN, FAAN. The new FAANs:

Diana Baptiste, DNP, RN, CNE, is a cardiovascular nurse, educator, and leader whose work is grounded in using innovative approaches to improve cardiovascular outcomes for underserved populations. She is core faculty for JHSON’s Center for Cardiovascular and Chronic Care, in which she guides dissemination of cardiovascular research for doctoral students, faculty, and international collaborators.

Andy Benson, DNP, CRNA, is assistant program director of the Doctor of Nursing Practice nurse anesthesia program, having previously served as Chief CRNA for Johns Hopkins leading a team of more than 100 CRNAs across the Johns Hopkins Hospital and providing administrative oversight for CRNAs across the Johns Hopkins Health Care System.

Kristen Brown, DNP, RN, CRNP, is the school’s advanced practice simulation coordinator. Brown is the developer of the first multi-institutional, high-fidelity simulation intensive training program specifically designed for pediatric nurse practitioners and is one of only 52 people across the world recognized as a Certified Healthcare Simulation Educator-Advanced (CHSE-A).

Victoria Hughes, DSN, MSN, RN, CENP, has a mental health clinical background working with children and families. She served as a nurse executive and chief executive in the U.S. Air Force, retiring after 27 years as a colonel. She has a decade of course development experience and has explored leadership development strategies among Air Force and nursing leaders in European island countries.

Junxin Li, PhD, RN, promotes the health and well-being of older adults by understanding how physical activity and sleep affect cognitive function. She is currently studying how personalized behavioral interventions can improve physical activity, sleep, and cognition in sedentary older adults and whether such interventions can also lessen musculoskeletal pain in these populations. All were inducted virtually at the American Academy of Nursing’s annual policy conference in October.

Alumnus and Congresswoman Lauren Underwood of Illinois was also inducted as an FAAN.

See a new video on how nursing continues to spur her political service at: magazine.nursing.jhu.edu/laurenu
Due to COVID-19, the 2020 edition of An Evening With the Stars was held online on Saturday, November 7. Highlights from the event will be available at nursing.jhu.edu/stars.

**STAR-tini**

**Ingredients:**
- 2 ounces vodka
- 2 ounces pomegranate juice
- Champagne
- Gold sugar

**Directions:**
Pour vodka and pomegranate juice into a cocktail shaker with ice. Strain into a martini glass rimmed with gold sugar and top with a splash of chilled Champagne. Float gold leaf and serve.

Toast 2020’s winners, and look forward to an in-person celebration in 2021!

**2020 WINNERS**

- **ELSIE PEYTON JARVIS STAR NURSE AWARD**
  - David Reif, Johns Hopkins Hospital

- **EUNICE SEARLES KING STUDENT NURSE AWARD**
  - Arthur Plaszczymaka, MSN (Entry into Nursing)

- **LINDA DA VIES VERSIC FACULTY AWARD**
  - Associate Professor Nicole Warren, JHSON

- **SUSAN CONCATO NURSE PRECEPTOR AWARD**
  - Lora Clawson

- **ROSENWALD NURSING INNOVATION AWARD**
  - Maria Shells Membreibe, Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center

- **ROSENWALD ICU NURSE AWARD**
  - Ellen Merrill, Howard County General Hospital

- **DIVERSITY AWARD**
  - Assistant Professor Rebecca Wright, JHSON

- **HERITAGE AWARD**
  - Karen Combs, ’70

- **DEAN’S AWARD**
  - Morris Offit
  - Natalie and Wes Bush
  - Bill and Joanne Conway
  - The E. Rhodes and Leona B. Carpenter Foundation

- **STAFF EXCELLENCE AWARD**
  - Sarah Tennison

This year, An Evening With the Stars also recognized COVID-19 heroes as nominated by Johns Hopkins Hospital and its affiliates. See the list on Page 38.
I t wasn’t the greatest way to fall in love with health care. Back then, Khushbu Patel, now a student in the Doctor of Nursing Practice Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Track, was just a teen with a very sick grandfather at Inova Fairfax, a hospital in Northern Virginia. A heart bypass and resulting complications kept him and his adoring granddaughter at the hospital for an extended stay. Grandfather would eventually be discharged and depart as good as new. Granddaughter would be changed forever—by the care she witnessed and the friendship of a nurse she bonded with during that time. In fact, she would never really leave.

“The hospital is sort of a weird second home of mine,” says Patel (daughter of and sister to physicians). She began volunteering at age 13, attended the University of Virginia, developed a crush on the idea of becoming a flight nurse (“the rock star thing” … it never panned out), attended Marymount University in Alexandria, VA, and then went to work as an RN … right back where she started, at Inova Fairfax.

“My grandfather was so proud when he heard I got a job there,” Patel says. And the Johns Hopkins School of Nursing saw to it that she wouldn’t have to leave to earn her DNP. Patel credits Assistant Professor Tammy Slater for leadership, flexibility, and creativity in finding clinical sites in Washington, DC and Virginia, which allowed Patel to maintain her residence in Fairfax Station, VA and her standing at Inova Fairfax.

“She looks at you and what your background is,” Patel says of Slater, “and then she pushes you out of your comfort zone.” For Patel, that meant time learning to act as a hospitalist, keying on “How can we get the patient home quickly and safely?” vs. focusing on a specific organ, illness, or type of nursing—the ultimate patient and health care advocate. And right now, she’s in the neuro intensive care unit, because Slater says so. It’s not easy to transition back and forth, but Patel has embraced the challenge and learned a lot about her own flexibility as well.

“I just try to trust the process and give each rotation a chance, and I’ve been surprised at every step,” she explains. “You’re so well-rounded when you come out of this program. You learn to handle so many scenarios.”

And back at Inova Fairfax, though she doesn’t fly off to the rescue in medical choppers, Patel has become something of a rock star anyway. She’s noticed that, as she moves toward a doctorate, colleagues and supervisors look at her in a new light. “I still don’t feel any different,” Patel says. But as she works to complete her DNP project—within her own hospital unit—co-workers notice her growth.

“My supervisor will ask, ‘What’s your DNP perspective on that?’ ” Patel’s perspective: That’s pretty cool.
The Magic Word: Listen

Student Senate President Leah Woienski of the Master’s Entry Program lets her open ears open doors

BY STEVE ST. ANGELO

When you’re the new kid in town as frequently as Leah Woienski has been all her life, you learn to read a room, a school, or even a moment of potentially great social change—and see exactly where you fit. It’s how the daughter of a U.S. Navy officer, a bit younger than most colleagues at the Johns Hopkins School of Nursing, becomes their Student Senate leader. It’s how, once more, Woienski has turned a strange city into home, unfamiliar faces into a family.

Her skeleton key? “Learn to meet people where they are. Know when to step forward, but also when to step back and give space, to listen.” It also helps to believe in magic, or at least know how to plug into it. For Woienski, that’s the “tiny humans” she has cared for through the years as a volunteer (Make A Wish, Children’s Hospital of Orange County, and Be the Match, for bone marrow donors), as an intern at House of Ruth Baltimore, and now in clinicals at Dayspring Programs, Johns Hopkins Hospital, and Sibley Memorial. “Magic is still real for them,” Woienski says of even the sickest pediatric patients. “A hospital shouldn’t ever have to be a home. But if it has to be for a kid…” Presto! A pulse oximeter is a “princess finder.” Shazam! A blood pressure cuff is a “superhero muscle tester.”

A healthy imagination, people skills, and a sense of self are essential to thriving in a childhood spent relocating every two to three years. “My mom always said that home was wherever the military sent us.” For better or worse: Woienski’s brother was born in Japan; her sister in Hawaii. “I was born in Carson City, NV.” Her folks finally settled on rural Montana as a permanent residence. (Remote, but “so beautiful!”)

Woienski earned a bachelor’s degree at Chapman University, then moved east in August 2019 from Southern California, “where everything is sugar-coated all the time. … In Baltimore, it’s just real, and raw.” Charm City won her heart anyway. As did her classmates. “So many incredible backgrounds. There are attorneys in my cohort! To come in as a 23-year-old and find my seat at that table and my voice in that environment … I’ve grown more being in Baltimore and being at Hopkins than I ever could have otherwise.”

Woienski is determined to make a difference here, there, and everywhere. “As a white woman, I feel a tremendous responsibility in this moment in history.” So she’s stepping forward, helping establish several Student Senate positions devoted to diversity, and she’s listening. “There is often a separation between MSN vs. DNP vs. PhD students, and it’s something we are working on to allow for and encourage more networking, collaboration, and relationships between the programs.”

There is no magic wand, but that’s OK. “Something my parents always told me growing up is that nothing worth having ever comes easy.”

“When my parents always told me growing up is that nothing worth having ever comes easy.”

PHOTO BY CHRIS HARTLOVE

Learn more about the JHSON masters programs at NURSING.JHU.EDU/MASTERS

“SOMETHING MY PARENTS ALWAYS TOLD ME GROWING UP IS THAT NOTHING WORTH HAVING EVER COMES EASY.”
A Pause to Reflect

Even as she eagerly looks ahead, community advocate Phyllis Sharps is making sure she hasn’t missed anything

BY STEVE ST. ANGELO

Professor Phyllis Sharps’s career has included 30 years as an Army nurse and 20 years as a Johns Hopkins School of Nursing faculty member. Those 50 years haven’t included much free time. Recently, she’s found herself pondering how she will transition from her academic career to a different phase of life with more adventures and new opportunities. “In all of my career as a nurse, it was not until 2018 that I ever took two weeks of vacation at one time, for a cruise with my husband. It got me to reflecting about what is next.”

Sharps knows that her cruise ship is about to come in, as she looks toward one day soon hanging up the white coat on a brilliant career—serving not only an East Baltimore community that has become home away from her home in Howard County but building programs to keep women and children safe from intimate partner violence across the U.S. Yet, Sharps also knows that the work is not done. As the Elsie M. Lawler Endowed Chair and associate dean for community programs and initiatives, she is determined to build a legacy at Johns Hopkins, in Baltimore, and in communities prone to the burdens of health disparities. Her work is a keystone, her success not an epitaph but a call to do more.

So, just as Sharps wasn’t the first to recognize a problem and act, or to recognize the value of mHealth (mobile technology to expand nursing’s reach), she’s determined she won’t be the last. “In the Army, I established a major training program that continued after I left,” she explains of her approach to program building. “It’s a testament to your work if something you started continues to flourish after you’ve moved on.”

Sharps has left no stone unturned, then, as she has worked to turn the Henderson-Hopkins School into a gathering place not just of healthy students but of parents and grandparents who learn wellness from those children.

Same with the groundbreaking, National Institute of Nursing Research-funded DOVE (for Domestic Violence Enhanced Home Visitlation) program she developed to keep women in abusive or potentially dangerous relationships safe simply by checking in—letting them know they aren’t alone and that they have choices to keep themselves and their children safe. And it has carried through to her work with the Wald Center, providing care to underserved East Baltimore residents, and the House of Ruth Baltimore, shielding and offering a safer path forward to women and children fleeing violence.

Though she knows that in her nursing career she will not see the end of the need among women and children, or of the inequity that plagues residents of East Baltimore, Sharps is not done making a difference. Still, she feels a tug of responsibility in her own family, remembering how her mother sacrificed to help Sharps earn a PhD. “There is a long tradition in my family of mothers and grandmothers helping the daughters reach their professional goals. My mom was there for me. I could not have earned the PhD without her help. Now, it is my turn to help my daughter reach her professional goals” as a physician and program director for a residency training program.

Even as she steals a few moments from a busy schedule to look ahead, Sharps is “grateful for a fabulous career as nurse-researcher.” Call her seasoned. Call her a trailblazer on health equity, on IPV research, or on building bridges to the East Baltimore community. Call her someone who looks forward to volunteering for her church and spending more time with “two beautiful granddaughters.” And leave it at that. She will let you know she is done on her way out the door.

“It’s a testament to your work if something you started continues to flourish after you’ve moved on.”
The Anatomy of a Hopkins Nurse

If nursing were a body, its brain would be leadership, flexibility, and creativity. Its heart would be compassion, calm, and perseverance. Its eyes and its hands would be skill and experience.

When you look at a Hopkins Nurse, you might see a first responder, a researcher, an advocate for change, a breaker of myths, a policy influencer, an enemy of complacency. What you might miss is a reflection of yourself. For just as all bodies are unique, the nursing profession offers nearly uncountable “fits” for a person from any walk of life, gender, background, or ZIP code.

If you are unsure what you’d “look” like in nursing, try our new feature, “The Anatomy of a Hopkins Nurse” (nursing.jhu.edu/anatomy). Meet folks like you, here and at the website. Take our online poll to find out what form of nursing fits your body, mind, and spirit. (Or get a warm reminder of why you’re here already.) Wherever you fit, the journey can begin—or continue—at the Johns Hopkins School of Nursing.

Nurse Entrepreneur: Beatrice Marseille

Beatrice Marseille came to the U.S. from Haiti and earned a degree in nuclear medicine in 1992. “But I always wanted to be a nurse,” she says. Today, she’s a DNP-prepared, hospitalist nurse practitioner, a nurse entrepreneur with her organizations Maple Adult Care and Maple Community, and a nurse leader with her nonprofit Vision for Haiti. “We go to rural Haiti, where there is no running water, no electricity, and just a small clinic,” Beatrice says. In the United States or abroad, the bottom line is community care: one-on-one direct patient care, connecting patients to social services, coordinating care so those in remote locations are not left behind. “Being a nurse, you learn how to do a lot of things,” she says. “You have the ability to make a difference in your community.”

Seeing All Sides: Jenna Mermer

Jenna Mermer has experienced a quick trajectory in the two years since she graduated from the MSN (Entry Into Nursing) program. “I didn’t expect to become a supervisor so quickly, but I’m happy to serve where I’m useful and there’s a need,” she says. She’s 100 percent public health nurse; her duties are split between seeing patients and managing/building out programs. “A hallmark of public health nurses is that we are asked to do many things beyond our job description.” This year, that meant creating a COVID-19 information line at a clinic of the Howard County Health Department. “We took a handful of nurses and developed frequently asked questions, protocols, a call tracking system, and more, from scratch, in a day.” It’s fast-paced work, but exactly what she wanted. “The one-on-one is why I became a nurse, but I love the high-level program management that lets me design things that will work for people,” Mermer says. “And I still get to build a personal connection with my patients.”

Reproducing Results: Ashley Gresh

Nurse midwife and PhD student Ashley Gresh is driven to provide new mothers and babies—everywhere in the world—with compassionate care through quality research. Going strictly by the numbers will tell you she has touched the lives of many women and children in the United States, India, and Malawi. Now a mother herself, Gresh breaks her nursing anatomy down like this:

- 50 percent PhD research. That’s adapting and implementing group postpartum and well-child care in Malawi, with a focus on maternal health as well as child health.
- 25 percent work as a Global Women’s Health Fellow, most recently in India.
- 10 percent public health nursing clinical instructor.
- 10 percent lead intern for the World Health Organization’s Global Alliance for Nursing and Midwifery.
- 5 percent research assistant for perinatal health in Malawi.

Where Do You Fit?

Learn more about Beatrice Marseille, Ashley Gresh, and Jenna Mermer’s nursing anatomies, build your own, or find out where you fit into the profession at nursing.jhu.edu/anatomy.
By definition, nurse practitioners (NP) and clinical nurse specialists (CNS) are unique subsets of advanced practice registered nurses. In general, a CNS works more in administration, education, and research, and NPs focus more on direct patient care and clinical leadership. In practice, however, the two overlap routinely—both essential to nursing’s role at the front lines of the COVID-19 battle, for instance. In fact, in an assessment of NP vs. CNS, the “vs.” should probably be replaced by an ampersand. Where one stops or rests, the other steps up.

The mission for both: ensuring better health outcomes for patients in primary and acute care settings. Both have the training to focus in direct care, administration, and leadership. COVID has called for even more shared responsibility.

Michelle Patch, PhD, MSN, APRN-CNS, described her CNS role this way: “The focus was on leading COVID-related operational efforts, communicating rapid changes in clinical practice, advocating for staff needs, and informing organizational-level planning and decision-making.”

“The [NP] is an integral part of the COVID response team at Johns Hopkins,” explains Jason Farley, PhD, MSN, MPH, FAAN, “from the incident command center to the intensive care unit to the trenches of primary care or in leadership of large research protocols.”

Both CNSs and NPs take medical histories, conduct physical exams, and analyze patient data to develop medical care plans. Both administer medications, monitor patient well-being, and modify patient care plans as needed over time. Both can also assume leadership and educational roles in medical and academic settings. One difference is how often they perform particular skills. For NPs, prescribing and adjusting medications, conducting physical exams, and ordering and interpreting lab tests are everyday tasks. In contrast, a CNS would likely identify patient advocacy, evidence-based research, and collaborating with interdisciplinary teams as critical responsibilities of the job.

Either specialty offers nurses good pay and an unmatched level of training and autonomy. Find a side-by-side comparison and learn where you fit best at nursing.jhu.edu/np-cns.
It would be hard to find anyone who is completely prepared when an unknown virus suddenly triggers a global pandemic. But even in the scramble that followed the early 2020 global outbreak of COVID-19, there were several nurse leaders at the Johns Hopkins School of Nursing (JHSON) perfectly positioned—by experience, by training, by research, by their nature—to step out front and begin making a crucial difference in saving lives and slowing the spread.

As the first waves of COVID infection rolled across the United States, the desperate need for artificial ventilators quickly became clear. They might be all that could save the sickest patients, and there weren’t nearly enough of them available. What wasn’t yet fully understood was how hooking up patients, a tricky procedure without proper training—combined with the danger of an aerosolized virus—could make things deadly for providers.

Associate Professor Vinciya Pandian, PhD, MBA, MSN, FAAN, a global expert on tracheostomy and intubation of patients, closely followed the trajectory of caregiver infections and immediately brought together a team to educate health care groups across the world and begin turning the tide. “For nurses and other caregivers, the first instinct is to save the patient,” Pandian explains. “While we would never want to squelch that instinct, absolute care must be taken to protect health care workers who might otherwise throw caution aside.”

Pandian is lead author of the recent publication “Critical Care Guidance for Tracheostomy Care During the COVID-19 Pandemic: A Global, Multidisciplinary Approach” in the American Journal of Critical Care. “What we need to do is find a way to make sure that essential caution becomes second nature, so the procedure is performed more confidently—and thus more quickly and efficiently—to save more patients without putting our own lives in danger.”

Thus, the protocols put forward by Pandian’s team of researchers, from the size and type of tracheostomy tube to the personal protective equipment (PPE) mandatory to safeguard health workers. “This pandemic presents an incredible challenge,” she says. “But the essential role played by ventilators is also an opportunity for caregivers and researchers focused on any illness or emergency that might result in intubation. The things we are learning out of necessity today will improve procedures and techniques—and thus quality of life for our patients—forever.”

Before the pandemic, Professor Jason Farley, PhD, MSN, MPH, FAAN, an infectious disease-trained nurse epidemiologist and a nurse practitioner, was embarking on the first fully telehealth-based study approved at Johns Hopkins, evaluating at-home treatment for sexually transmitted diseases including HIV/AIDS. At the time, he says, the concept of all-remote care seemed avant-garde. “It really felt like we were pushing the envelope,” says Farley, who adds that his infectious disease practice is now 90 percent telehealth.

It’s but one advance championed by Farley, who has become a key national spokesman on scientific and common-sense approaches to COVID-19, has trained caregivers
statewide on proper use of PPE, established a mobile COVID-19 testing site in a parking lot behind the Johns Hopkins School of Nursing, and recently announced his commitment to personally take part in vaccine trials.

His research seeks to streamline care approaches that optimize navigation, linkage, engagement, and retention in care for individuals with infectious diseases, including studies designed to keep patients engaged in care over long periods of illness. He is the director and founder of the REACH Initiative serving Baltimore City residents living with and at risk for HIV and associated co-infections. He is a fellow in the American Academy of Nursing, most recently serving as chair of the Emerging Infectious Diseases Expert Panel. As a seasoned infection-prevention expert, he was part of a Johns Hopkins team evaluating the SARS response in China at an affiliated institution as well as country-level health system responses to tuberculosis and HIV co-infection.

In other words, this isn’t Farley’s first boxing match with an epidemic, and he’s not the type to back down. “We all really want to get back to normal as quickly as we can, and to be able to do that, we have to stand up and participate—all of us, as many as we can and as quickly as we can—in the various vaccine trials,” he told Bloomberg News. “I, like everyone else, want to get back to normal, and so I raised my hand to participate. As a researcher, it is my ethical obligation to also participate if I’m enrolling patients in trials.”

“IT WAS CONSTANT MANEUVERING AND A LOT OF STRESS, AND THAT FEELING OF PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY.”

For Clinical Nurse Specialist Michelle Patch, PhD, MSN, RN, a transition to full-time assistant professor at JHSON would have to be temporarily set aside as she jumped to join the core of Johns Hopkins Medicine’s pandemic response as an operations chief of its unified command center. Through spring and summer, she worked on a team to untangle a knot of logistical puzzles, like how to allocate personal protective equipment evenly across the institution. “It was constant maneuvering and a lot of stress,” Patch says. “And that feeling of personal responsibility.”

There was no second-guessing. The months that have followed have only reinforced in the researcher, educator, and caregiver a belief in the huge role to be played by nurses with the proper education and practice authority. And what she has accomplished—and learned—on COVID’s front lines will soon enough come home with her back to the classroom.

This article includes reporting from Johns Hopkins University’s newsletter, the HUB.

Working Remotely

Stacie Stender, ’99, ’01, facilitates response for Jhpiego

Stacie Stender, a senior technical advisor with Jhpiego, was somewhere on the West Coast, having stopped for only a moment as she, her husband, and a new pup rode out the COVID-19 pandemic in an Airstream Basecamp trailer. It’s no coincidence, days filled with the same cascade of virtual meetings and sensitive discussions as her normal schedule, with the added stress of connecting with people in time zones across the world. From the camper, Stender uses her cellphone to create a portable WiFi hotspot, logs on to her computer, and wherever her leadership is needed most.

Along the way, she’s helped ramp up systems and capacity in several of the 41 countries that Jhpiego serves—or to travel. She has spent 18 years traversing sub-Saharan Africa, India, and Haiti, focused on revitalization of primary care and ensuring equitable access to health care.

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A family nurse practitioner and specialist in infectious diseases, Stender is no stranger to outbreaks—she’d previously worked in sub-Saharan Africa, China at an affiliated institution as well as country-level health system responses to tuberculosis and HIV co-infection. There was no second-guessing. The months that have followed have only reinforced in the researcher, educator, and caregiver a belief in the huge role to be played by nurses with the proper education and practice authority. And what she has accomplished—and learned—on COVID’s front lines will soon enough come home with her back to the classroom.

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Lori Parker, RN, treats an oncology patient curbside at Johns Hopkins Hospital's Skip Viragh Building.

Read more about the Curbside Injection Clinic on Page 36.

PHOTO BY CHRIS HARTLOVE

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Allison Green

The DAISY Award highlighted the compassion and dedication of Allison Green, from the Medical Progressive Care Unit, Nelson 5. In just one instance, Green chose to stay hours into the next shift to make sure both a patient and family were supported through the end-of-life process. Green ensured this devastating situation could be met with kindness and support through the care she provided. From the nomination letter: “Allison ... provided this patient and family with a dignified death for their loved one.”

Stefanie Ness

Stefanie Ness’s DAISY was awarded virtually—not due to COVID-19 but rather to another reason to celebrate—Ness was home on maternity leave. She was nominated for the DAISY Award by a mother who had felt completely overwhelmed by a scary, unexpected diagnosis for her daughter as well as the vast amount of information, treatment options, and medications. From the nomination letter: “Stefanie touched our lives at the moment we needed it most, and helped us more than she knows.”

Stephanie Zero

COVID-19 has led to countless changes, and nurses and other staff members have had to quickly adapt in response to the pandemic. Stephanie Zero, a nurse on the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit (PICU), did more than just adapt to these changes, she embraced them. Zero was nominated by a colleague for her dedication and exemplary leadership as the PICU transitioned to care for critically ill adults as well. She went above and beyond to educate her fellow PICU staff members and helped make sure the unit was prepped with the necessary resources. From the nomination letter: “I am so thankful that Stephanie stepped up for our unit and I think every single patient that we receive in this new unit will be safer and better cared for directly because of Stephanie Zero.”
Cancer Treatment to Go

Curbside Injection Clinics offer patients ‘drive-thru’ care with a side of COVID safety

On a hot, late-summer day, Lori Parker, oncology RN, is calm and cool in scrubs, surgical mask, and face shield, dragging two mobile carts at once out to meet a cancer patient’s car in the traffic circle of Johns Hopkins Hospital’s Skip Viragh Building. She checks him in using a wristband and barcode scanner and pulls up his chart on Epic, the electronic medical record system. He’s a first-time user of a curbside injection program that allows patients concerned about COVID-19 exposure—or at risk due to compromised immune systems—to be treated without ever leaving their cars. In 15 minutes or less, they are rolling on their way.

Since April, more than 1,500 patients have utilized Viragh’s Curbside Injection Clinic and a companion site across Orleans Street at Johns Hopkins Hospital’s Weinberg Center, according to MiKaela Olsen, DNP, APN-CNS, FAAN, an oncology and hematology clinical nurse specialist and the driving force behind the service. Health care centers nationwide have taken notice, calling Olsen and her team for advice on setting up their own versions of the clinics.

It’s like clockwork, mostly, until another first-time stumps angrily up to her station. He has misunderstood how the operation works and has been waiting impatiently for treatment … over in the parking garage. Parker doesn’t blink or hesitate at his indignation, whisking him into a dedicated side room for treatment on the spot: one more happy—or at least happier—and now better-informed customer. “She’s a problem-solver,” explains Olsen. The side room is generally reserved for gluteal injections or other treatments that might leave patients feeling too exposed even in their vehicles.

Viragh and Weinberg treat different types of cancers, those with solid tumors presented by pancreatic or prostate cancer, for instance (Viragh), or “liquid” tumors (from leukemia or lymphoma) at Weinberg, where a sidewalk scale tracks a patient’s weight, which can affect dosages. At Weinberg’s injection clinic, where the emphasis is more on chemotherapy, Olsen chose hematologic malignancy RNs Joanna Bautista and Erica Langton as champions. What could at times be a lengthy appointment for labs and a chemotherapy injection has turned into a 30-minute drive-up visit. Nurses complete a full assessment, take vital signs, and do some teaching before administering the chemotherapy.

At the curbside oncology clinics, patients may have blood drawn and receive injections of therapy drugs, growth factors, or vaccines and have their vitals checked without ever leaving the car, or whatever vehicle brought them. “We’re in an inner-city area, and people sometimes show up for treatments in Ubers and taxis,” Olsen says. “Patients love it, and some say they don’t ever want to go back to being seen in the cancer center. We plan to keep both [indoor and curbside clinics] going after COVID-19 is over.”

“To keep both [indoor and curbside clinics] going after COVID-19 is over.”

“We had to adapt to the circumstances and come up with a way to get them the care they needed while also protecting them from becoming infected with the coronavirus.” A former Army nurse and an inexhaustible innovator, Olsen drew on her experience with field hospitals to focus on rapidly building an outdoor program that could match the level of quality care on the inside—and then recruit nurses who were battle tested.

Parker was among those hand-picked for the role. And on this day, she is showing why, fielding phone calls from patients on their way to the drive-up, spacing out the arrivals as she preps for the next one. She bustles in and out of the sliding glass doors to meet each vehicle, muscling the carts across the pavement, treating each new patient like the only person in the world.

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Parker loves the constant action, the variety of patients, and the freedom of being outside the hospital for part of each shift and says she doesn’t worry about the approaching winter, or whatever weather comes. “Except the wind. That’s the worst,” she says. The medicines are likewise weather-proof, with those that require refrigeration kept in a “smart” cooler that alerts the pharmacy should temperatures rise. And a security detail makes sure supplies don’t walk away and that nurses work worry-free. At both clinics, other common outdoor services include flushing central line catheters and performing dressing changes. “We’re still thinking of ways to treat more things curbside,” says Olsen.
Heroism has been the baseline in 2020 for nurses affiliated with the Johns Hopkins Health System. Even then, some have made singular contributions to the effort against COVID-19 while maintaining the unmatched excellence across the board for which Johns Hopkins is known. This year, for An Evening with the Stars, a number of nurses were singled out as COVID Star Nurses. (Lara Street of Nelson 5 chose to single out her entire unit. Several colleagues are photographed here.) Congratulations to all.

**COVID Star Nurses**

**SUZANNE MAURIS**
HOWARD COUNTY GENERAL HOSPITAL

**AMY OLSON**
ALL CHILDREN’S HOSPITAL

**CATHY CLARK**
SUBURBAN HOSPITAL

**FADWA NATOUR**
SUBURBAN HOSPITAL

**IOANNA SANBORN**
SUBURBAN HOSPITAL

**VICTORIA MORRIS**
JOHNS HOPKINS HOSPITAL

**LARA STREET/NELSON 5 NURSING**
JOHNS HOPKINS HOSPITAL

**KAITLAN BAKER**
JOHNS HOPKINS HOSPITAL

**LISA PUETT**
JOHNS HOPKINS HOSPITAL

**HEATHER THORNTON**
JOHNS HOPKINS BAYVIEW MEDICAL CENTER

**ANNE DUREMDES**
JOHNS HOPKINS BAYVIEW MEDICAL CENTER

**JAYDEE ENCARNACION**
SIBLEY MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

**MARCUS QUIAOIT**
SIBLEY MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

To LeighAnn Sidone, CNO and now acting president of the 223-bed Suburban Hospital in Bethesda, her facility is “a little hidden gem where you can get complex care close to home.” It’s a quaint if tight description of a place where “a unique culture and spirit” makes Sidone the head of a health care family as much as a boss. Then an outbreak of COVID-19 in Montgomery County threatened to tear that community fabric to shreds. Sidone remembers the refrigerated “morgue” trucks showing up outside the hospital, standing ready for a number of deaths previously unseen.

Sidone was asked to work to exhaustion, across unfamiliar units, in an atmosphere of uncertainty if not outright fear. And she made a decision: Neither floor nurses nor support staff would be the ones to transport COVID victims to these trailers—they would focus on the living, and on keeping themselves safe. Sidone herself, with other hospital leaders, would lead the somber exercise.

It is an episode she says she won’t ever forget, and she’s sure her team won’t either.

Deborah Baker, senior vice president of nursing for Johns Hopkins Health System and vice president of nursing and patient care services at Johns Hopkins Hospital, saw very early that COVID-19 would test her organization, and that the world would be looking to Johns Hopkins for how to respond. She and her leadership team left no room for missteps or misinterpretation.

“When the COVID-19 pandemic broke out, we shut down certain parts of the hospital so we could treat COVID patients and contain the virus as much as possible,” Baker explains.

Having weathered the initial surge, and with a new one likely to coincide with the onset of flu season, Baker and her team stood even more ready. “This time we are really focused on being able to treat COVID patients without having to shut down other areas of our hospitals. We want to maintain full capacity to provide emergency care and treat patients with chronic conditions. So we will continue to observe safety protocols and build our capacity to treat all patients who need care.”

Read more “Reflections of a CNO” at magazine.nursing.jhu.edu/bakercno
Jhpiego-trained nurse Khauhelo Monaheng, 26 (far right), exuded both confidence and competence when he met Sister Maria Fatima Rakusane, 96, admitted to Lesotho’s Berea Hospital with COVID-19. “She needed a lot of attention because she could not do much on her own,” says Monaheng, whose compassionate persistence finally won the faith of the nun 70 years his senior (Polo Matlalane Motsoari/Jhpiego).

Snapshots of difference-making nurses and midwives the world over

While so much of the world rightly focuses on COVID-19, the need for nurse leadership on malaria, cancer, HIV, childbirth, and aging—as well as coronavirus—continues in each of the 41 countries served by Jhpiego, an affiliate of the Johns Hopkins University.

These pages feature a glimpse at a few of the places where Jhpiego, a global health organization led by a nurse in its CEO and President Leslie Mancuso, has been making a difference.

Read more about the lives in Asia, Africa, Europe, and the Americas touched by Jhpiego at JHPIEGO.ORG/STORIES.

From top: Sarita Yadav, a staff nurse at Jankipuram Urban Primary Health Care Center in Uttar Pradesh, India, urges women to visit her at the local facility for clinical breast exams if they notice any abnormality—such as pain or a mass (Tanushree Sharma/Jhpiego); staff nurse Madhuri Pawar screens a pregnant client in the gestational diabetes mellitus clinic at Betul District Hospital in India (India/Jhpiego); Community Health Officer Gertrude Doku, a nurse at Ghana’s Tinkong CHPS Compound, shares the results of a Rapid Diagnostic Test for malaria with a client (Emmanuel Attramah/PMI-Impact Malaria).

From top: Nurse Masiele Motlalepula instructs women at Nkoyaphiri Clinic in Gabarone, Botswana on how to self-collect their own specimens, and explains an innovative screening strategy for cervical cancer (Kate Holt/Jhpiego).

Nurse midwife Beatrice Bwaize celebrates a healthy delivery at Chato health facility in Geita, Tanzania. Dotto Wilson, a mother of six, survived a life-threatening childbirth complication thanks to Bwaize’s decision-making and care (Frank Kimaro/Jhpiego).
In 2020, 50th Year Medallions awaited the Class of 1970, who celebrated virtually.
Dear Alumni,

Just like Hopkins Nurses, this year has been unique. We had to adjust our traditional programming and adapt to new methods of interaction. While COVID-19 has forced the JHNAA to launch into virtual programming more quickly than anticipated, when faced with this challenge and opportunity, we formed the Alumni Engagement Committee. Over the past six months, JHNAA has hosted several virtual coffee chats and intimate JHSON alumni conversations. Members of our Alumni Engagement Committee are participating in planning by identifying topics, conversation leaders, and questions to pose.

While not what we had anticipated, this year’s virtual Alumni Weekend events allowed us to connect with more alumni—many who otherwise would not have been able to join us in person. This year with Alumni Weekend, we were able to engage a broader group of alumni spanning across all decades—and not just reunion years. During our trivia night, we had alumni participating from the Class of 1938 through 2018. I am grateful that technology has made these interactions possible. This has been one of the bright spots in our new normal.

Adapting to this new territory, other Alumni Weekend events included a “Nurse Practitioner Led Telehealth” presentation that provided continuing education credits; a panel discussion of “Hopkins Nurses in Pandemics” with John M. Barry, Jason Farley, Devon Everson, and Deborah Baker; and finally, the Johns Hopkins Nurses’ Alumni Association Business Meeting and Dean’s Address.

A silver lining with the COVID-19 pandemic has been the increased access and convenience of remote interaction. I encourage you to make the most of our situation and engage in these alumni conversations and virtual programming.

Sandra Hammer Bryan continues to work at University of Maryland St. Joseph Medical Center in the ICU. Sandle is now the oldest nurse in her department, a dubious honor! Previously, she worked in the shock trauma unit and cancer center ICU at Maryland for many years. She and her husband live in Freeland, MD; they have two children and seven grandchildren. Sandle enjoys camping, hiking, gardening, and being a National Park Service and local library volunteer. She resists retirement as she does not want to lose the satisfaction that comes with being a nurse.

Gayle Corbett Chaney retired in 2016 after 23 years as a staff nurse in cardiac surgery. She and her husband, David, live in Oregon. Gayle has three adult children, two of whom have chosen nursing as a career. Gayle received a BSN in 1984 from CSULA. While living in California, she worked as a docent at the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library, a volunteer job she really loved. Now Gayle enjoys ballroom dancing, biking, travel, and studying Spanish.

Karen Combs lives in Grand Junction, CO with her spouse, Lynn. She earned a BS and MS from Northern Illinois University and an MBA from Washington University. After working in community nursing, as well as a short stint in banking and advertising, she retired after 23 years with Epic, a health care software company. Her most notable sale was to Johns Hopkins! Travelling internationally was a passion until this year; she and Lynn are now focused on travel in the West. She is honored to have been asked to serve on the Hopkins Nursing Advisory Board.

Eileen Timms Doll lives with her husband and nine (yes, 9!) cats in Maryland. She completed her BS in 1994. Eileen worked at JHHS until 1979, then went into long-term care, ending her career in 2010 as a consultant to nursing homes and SNFs. She specialized in clinical reimbursement and information. Her current interests include felines and wildlife conservation.

Patricia (Trish) Dorgan had a varied career with certifications as an EMT, childbirth educator, massage therapist, and Reiki practitioner. She retired in 2015 after 13 years as a surveyor for LTC facilities. She lives in New Market, MD within miles of her two sons and two granddaughters; her daughter
lives in Colorado. She shares her house with two rescue dogs and loves doing anything with her grandchildren.

Geraldine Hirsch Fitzgerald lives in Bethany Beach, DE but also enjoys time in Washington, DC and Florida. Geri lost her husband Jim in 2018 to cancer; she has two children and two grandchildren who “keep me from aging too fast.” She earned a BSN from the University of Pennsylvania and an MSN/PNP from Catholic University. In 2001, she became a board-certified lactation consultant. Her consulting led her to international work as a UN advocate for maternal-infant health; she participated in the UNICEF, WHO, the US Institute of Medicine, and CIP一期. She enjoys pickle ball and tai chi, playing the Irish drum, baking bread, taking French lessons, visiting the Art Institute, and volunteering with the local women’s recovery houses.

Jane Riegel Haberkorn and her husband, Tom, live near Chicago in Burr Ridge, IL. They have four children and 10 grandchildren. Jane worked in a variety of nursing positions and areas (psych, ICU, public health, and OB). She retired from her position as an OB health educator in 2019; she was certified as a lactation consultant and a Lamaze educator. Since she cannot currently travel, she has been baking bread, taking French lessons, visiting the Art Institute, and spending time with her children.

Christine Fowler James concluded her nursing career as an outpatient director at Penn State Hershey Medical Center in Hershey, PA, not far from where she lives in Mechanicsburg with her husband, Geoff. Previously, she worked in inpatient surgical areas in several different hospitals and locations. She has four sons and nine grandchildren. She enjoys volunteering with the local PBS radio and television station and serving on the boards of two local women’s recovery houses. Grandchildren fill in the time too!

Mary Frances (Fran) Keen returned to her hometown of Lancaster, PA in 1999 to accept a job at Villanova University. Following two years in Miami, FL. After deciding to teach nursing, she continued her education at University of Maryland and Catholic University. Fran loved teaching med-surg and developing international experiences for students. Post-pandemic she enjoyed traveling and doing global build with Habitat for Humanity. She shares her space with a house rabbit; her brothers and nephews live nearby.

Pat Magill Krupa lives in Dunedin, FL with her husband, Gary, having just celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. Her three children and five grandchildren also call Florida home. After school, Pat became an ANP with the JHH program headed by Martha Hill. With a BS in health care administration, she became involved with clinical information systems. She ended her career at Microsoft as an account executive for the federal government including NIH, FDA, DoD, and the VA. She has “replaced myself in the nursing workforce by growing one of my own.” Her youngest daughter is completing her MSN!

Zita Kwiatkowski started her post-Hopkins career with the Air Force, spending two years in Texas and Japan. Subsequently, she received a BS in health care administration, a BS in computer science, and an MBA. She also has a diploma as an FNP and physician’s assistant. Zita has had multiple and varied positions in nursing over the years, and now is working as a substitute teacher in the public school system. She resides in Rapid City, SD with her husband and canine companions. She is the owner and manager of an organic farm.

Terry Lavelle is living in Auburn, CA. She spent 40 years doing patient care, 30 of them in emergency departments. During her final eight years in nursing, she was charge nurse at Kaiser Urgent Care in Hollywood, CA. She also served in the Army Reserves for eight years and attained the rank of captain. Prior to COVID-19, she was doing a lot of traveling and has been to 47 states and Europe. She volunteers with the American Cancer Society and a thrift store; she loves horseback riding in her spare time.

Martha (Marie) Vanaman Livingston earned an MPH from the University of Pittsburgh and worked in public health for 44 years, retiring in August 2020. Martie retired from the Air Force Reserve in 2005 as a Lieutenant colonel. She worked other jobs, which she says are too numerous to list, but one was as a corrections nurse. Now she is adjusting to retirement in a big farmhouse in Beloit, OH. She has three children and three grandchildren, all living in Los Angeles.

Patricia Coffin Marseglia ended her career within the VA system as a clinical specialist. She concluded her education at Duke (BSN), University of North Carolina (MSN), and Indiana University (PhD). She enjoys reading, music, and making greeting cards for charities.

Anne Dietler McGee lives with her husband, Richard, in Edmonds, WA. They have four children, six grandchildren, and a slow line of grand-dogs, with most living on the West Coast. After school, Anne worked in a number of hospitals, including JHH and NIH. In 1975, they settled in Seattle; she became very involved with volunteer and charity work, along with raising her family. Today, she and her husband enjoy traveling and boating; and Anne has “rediscovered” gardening and biking.

Judith Day McLeod, after retiring a BSN, PNP certification, and MSN, concluded her education with a DNP from Johns Hopkins in 2012 while Martha Hill was dean. She is currently working as a nursing education consultant for the California Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians after working as a staff nurse in L&D as a PNP and as an administrator of several nursing programs. She and her husband, John, live in Mission Viejo, CA. They have two children and two grandchildren.

Robyn (Robertta) Hague Moriarity-Krupa and her husband have retired to rural Idaho, where they have a small farm and care for a menagerie of animals. Robyn has two adult children and four grandchildren. She continued her education at the University of Utah, receiving both a BSN and MSN, as well as a certificate in web design. She spent 28 years combined in the Air Force and Navy and is grateful for their support. She recently retired from the Navy as a captain. In civilian life, she transitioned to hospital administration at the University of Utah Health Sciences Center. She currently enjoys fiber art and caring for her farm and animal companions.

Laurie Payne Oehler worked in a variety of locations after graduation, including Pennsylvania, Maryland, and Michigan. She feels we left Hopkins with confidence that we could do nursing and do it well. She now resides in Willis, VA with her two dogs, a collie and a golden retriever, and enjoys local music and keeping busy with quilting and pets. She has one son, Paul.

Sally Bowers Orr worked in critical care units, in palliative care, and as a research assistant in the cardiovascular program at the University of Toronto. Sally moved to Toronto after several years at Hopkins. Her family includes her husband, Jim, three children, three grandchildren, and the family dog. She enjoys reading, bridge, skiing, tennis, golf, travel, and volunteering.

Klitmir Lappin Prasi and her husband, Ed, have been married to
for 38 years; they have two sons and three grandchildren ages 9 to 18. The family also includes a 36-year-old horse! Following graduation, Kit’s first job was with the Baltimore City Health Department. She also worked as a dialysis nurse, correctional nurse, and the last 23 years for the state health department in Texas. She retired as a tuberculosis nurse case manager. Now she enjoys time with her grandchildren, gardening, sewing, and quilting. She made hundreds of face masks for family and friends.

Cecelia Lorraine Schieve lives in Belmont, MA. After JHH, she received a BSN from Boston University and an MSN from Boston College, as well as an MS from the Harvard School of Public Health in 1998. During her career, she worked at a variety of places including Peter Bent Brigham Hospital, Fenway Community Health, Neponset Health Center, and Planned Parenthood. She has been married for 49 years living in Phoenixville, PA. They have three daughters and four grandchildren.

Susan Ireland Sheltito lives in New Orleans with her husband, Judi, they have two daughters. Sue began to have doubts about nursing as a career in her first year but decided to stay. She found her path after graduation in art, completing a bachelor of fine arts at the Chicago Academy of Fine Arts as well as graduate work at the University of New Mexico. She continues to make art in various forms, teaching art in schools, and gaining gallery representation and museum inclusion. In addition to painting and printmaking, she has done work in concrete and ceramic sculpture. Currently she is painting in enamels—combining figures, words, and geometric designs in her pieces.

Janet Smelson Schlicht lives in Hampton House by earning her juris doctor from Temple University and pursued a career path as an attorney, working for a large Fortune 100 company. She designed and implemented a global ethics and compliance program for 12,000 employees in 100 countries. She is volunteering with the Democratic Committee working for social justice. She and her husband, Ed, have been married for 49 years living in Phoenixville, PA. They have three daughters and four grandchildren.

Kay Smith Sims lives in Ellendale, TN and is currently teaching in the BSN program at the University of Mississippi, where she has been teaching for the past 15 years. She earned a BSN (Union University) and an MSN (University of Tennessee). During her career, she has worked in a variety of critical care positions including as a CNS and staff educator. Her adult daughter is a middle-school adult/geriatric nurse practitioner from the University of Colorado and a DNP from the School of Public Health at Columbia University. Bicki worked in a variety of public health positions and has taught undergraduate and graduate nursing courses. Since retirement, she volunteers at a golden retriever rescue kennel (and has a rescue dog for her own companion at home), living in Louisville, KY and Times Square in New York City.

Lynnette Cantorlanti Sisson lives in Matthews, NC with her husband, Tim. She has a daughter and a son and three grandchildren, ages 14-18. She earned her BSN and worked at Johns Hopkins Hospital, the University of Michigan Hospital, and William Beaumont Hospital in Royal Oak, MI. She took medical retirement in 1994 and was elected to the Board of Education in Royal Oak, where she served until 2002. She is currently an ordained elder in the Presbyterian Church and volunteers with the local women’s shelter, an immigrant center, and youth groups. In addition to travel, she enjoys reading and knitting, and attends a church conference in the North Carolina mountains each year.

Loretta (Lori) Knob Snyder and her husband, Will, live in Greensbelt, MD. They have three adult children and two grandchildren with another on the way. Lori has worked across disciplines including med-surg, orthopedics, oncology, home health, and school nursing in a variety of settings in California, Pennsylvania, and Maryland. She earned a BSN from American University and now enjoys gardening, landscaping, visiting the family farm in Pennsylvania, and time with family and friends. A two-year-old grandson lives just minutes away.

Mary Ann (“Bicki”) Bickerton Thompson lives in Louisville, KY with her husband, Mil. After JHH, she continued her education, culminating with a certificate as an adult/geriatric nurse practitioner from the University of Colorado and a DNP from the School of Public Health at Columbia University. Bicki enjoys researching nursing history in Kentucky.

Sandra Montague Winfield worked in the Hopkins Pedi ICU for several years before moving to Texas; she lives in Granbury, TX. After several positions in cardiovascular nursing and becoming a nurse paramedic, she turned her attention to EMS; she is the EMS chief for her local 911 response area, running two basic to MICU-level ambulances, a service which she developed. She completed her BS in health care administration at Texas A&M. Sandra enjoys flying her two-seater plane, traveling, and sewing on her antique Singer sewing machines.
Honor Guard to Begin

Many alumni have expressed interest in starting a Nursing Honor Guard to honor deceased alumni. I have obtained a vintage Church Home cape and genuine white clinic shoes for future ceremonies. This is a very special tradition that many nursing schools around the country have been doing for years.

I urge everyone to read up on this and appreciate how very special this will be for deceased alumni when requested.

Always Ready to Help!

During the COVID-19 Pandemic, several alumnae have been busy stitching away to help others. Barbara Zelenka Spink, ’69 has made over 300 masks for nurses in New York, Kennedy Krieger, and Masonic Homes. Debbie Cappoloni Edmunds, ’70 was busy making masks (and shields with her 3-D printer), and Mary Ann DeSisco Frey, ’67 donated her time and talent to make gowns and masks for local Health Care Heroes! Susan Riddlesberger, ’71 volunteered with local AORN members to make masks to support both nurses and local Homeless Shelters. Thank you to all of these talented and generous alumnae for their donation of time and caring during this devastation.

Virtually Reunion Weekend

The coronavirus did put a damper on Reunion Weekend 2020, but I ask fellow alumni to hold that thought until 2021 when we will celebrate and do justice to the Fifty Year Honorees from 1970 and 1971. The Distinguished Alumni Award will also be presented at the 2021 celebration. Nominations are still being accepted.

Look to the Church Home Facebook Page for ongoing updates.

A Presence in the New Johns Hopkins School of Nursing

The new wing of the Johns Hopkins School of Nursing will not open soon enough. It promises to be spectacular and truly state of the art. Befitting indeed for the No. 1 school in the country! In the new school Garden, a bench has been purchased by Patricia Kniffin Roberts, ’65 in honor of Church Home Alumni.

In the new building, a quilt will hang adorned with squares of memories, symbols, and more. Church Home Alumni purchased two 10-inch squares for the quilt. The squares will proudly display the Church Home Pin and the Ensign on the Hill Dome.

CHURCH NOTES
DEB CORTEGGIANO KENNEDY, ’73

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THE BACK PAGE

The Johns Hopkins School of Nursing celebrates once again being named a Best School for Men in Nursing by the American Association for Men in Nursing (Page 13). The honor dovetails with JHSON’s third consecutive HEED Award for Diversity (Page 11). It’s a great time to be a member of the JHSON family. (On the facing page, snapshots from videos and social media of men who have called Johns Hopkins Nursing home.)

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