WHEN LIFE IS YOUR LIFE'S CALLING.

CLEAR VISION FOR 2020

MOUNT CARMEL College of Nursing

WHEN LIFE IS YOUR LIFE'S CALLING.
NURSES WITH GRADUATE-LEVEL PREPARATION ARE NEEDED TO PROVIDE HIGH QUALITY CARE; CONDUCT RESEARCH; TEACH; SHAPE PUBLIC POLICY; LEAD HEALTH SYSTEMS; CONSULT WITH CORPORATIONS; AND IMPLEMENT EVIDENCE-BASED SOLUTIONS THAT REVOLUTIONIZE HEALTH CARE.

“NURSES WITH GRADUATE-LEVEL PREPARATION ARE NEEDED TO PROVIDE HIGH QUALITY CARE; CONDUCT RESEARCH; TEACH; SHAPE PUBLIC POLICY; LEAD HEALTH SYSTEMS; CONSULT WITH CORPORATIONS; AND IMPLEMENT EVIDENCE-BASED SOLUTIONS THAT REVOLUTIONIZE HEALTH CARE.”

– ANCC POSITION STATEMENT
The importance of graduate education for nurses in the long view is on the rise, according to the American Association of Colleges of Nursing. In fact, AACN – of which Mount Carmel College of Nursing is a member – encourages all nurses to strive for higher levels of education to advance their capacity to enhance the quality of care available for the nation’s diverse patient populations. ANCC says the call for more nurses with graduate-level preparation is coming from authorities as diverse as the Institute of Medicine, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, and the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching.

With this in mind, Mount Carmel College of Nursing has taken a closer look at its Graduate Program, honing in on fine detail to ensure our vision is in focus.

“Although there will always be a place in nursing for entry-level Bachelor of Science-prepared nurses to be successful, Mount Carmel College of Nursing encourages nurses to pursue advanced degrees and/or advanced certificates to build on their career in nursing,” says Kathleen Williamson, PhD, MSN, RN, who is academic dean, MCCN.

“We want all nurses to be life-long learners because health care is ever evolving, and nurses need to hone their critical thinking skills, be adept and adaptable with advancing technologies and responsive to adopting new innovative and evidence-based practices,” she adds.

Dr. Williamson’s role as academic dean impacts the first three of the six pillars of MCCN’s Strategic Plan that provides a roadmap for the College’s Journey to Transformation (see Lamp, Spring/Summer 2019). All six pillars – Education, Research, Clinical Practice, Supportive Environment, Valued Partners and Financial Stewardship – are inter-dependent, strategic initiatives established to enhance the outcomes and preparedness of MCCN graduates.

Dr. Williamson, along with MCCN President Ann Marie Brooks, PhD, RN, FAAN, FACHE, FNAP, and Jami Nininger, DNP, RN, associate dean of graduate and distance education, has worked diligently in collaboration with other faculty and staff to enhance the Graduate Nursing Program.
Kathleen Williamson, PhD, MSN, RN, came to MCCN in January 2019 from Wilson School of Nursing, Midwestern State University in Wichita Falls, Texas. A third-generation nurse whose grandmother worked as a diploma graduate in a surgical group well into her 70s, Dr. Williamson earned her Master of Science in Nursing Education from Wilmington University and her PhD in urban affairs and public policy from the University of Delaware. Her Ohio connection comes through her work with the Fuld Institute for Evidence-Based Practice at The Ohio State University. Recently, she was awarded a Health Resources & Services Administration grant for Advanced Nursing Education Nurse Residency Program (ANE-NRP). The HRSA grant provides $2 million over four years to create and put in place a Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP) Residency Program in collaboration with community partners. This grant will provide experiences to MCCN’s FNP new graduates (residents) to expand their clinical experiences and transition into the workplace while caring for medically underserved populations (see Quick Read, Page 10.)

“Graduate education creates exciting career pathways for career advancement for nurses,” says Dr. Nininger. MCCN’s Master of Science degree has three specialty tracks – Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner, Family Nurse Practitioner, and Nursing Leadership—Clinical Operations.

“We are delighted to announce that the Master of Science in Nursing Leadership—Clinical Operations will be offered fully beginning Fall, 2020,” she adds. MCCN’s commitment to continuous quality improvement, as well as responsiveness to industry demand, led to a recent
revisioning of the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) program, which started in 2015. MCCN has embarked on a unique approach to DNP education that allows students to complete the program in as little as 18 months and achieve eligibility for obtaining Evidence-Based Practice Certification (EBP-C) upon graduation.

“We want to ensure that our graduates are equipped to stand apart as innovators and experts in practice and health care,” Dr. Nininger explains. “By ensuring graduates are experts in evidence-based practice and are prepared with competencies relating to change management and leadership, MCCN is equipping graduates to be leaders in transforming academic nursing, health care, and nursing practice.”

After graduating from “the Mount,” Dr. Nininger earned her Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) from Franklin University in 1993 and held a faculty position at MCCN from 1994 to 2005. During that tenure, she earned her Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) from Wright State University in 1996. Her career then took her to The Ohio State University College of Nursing, a clinical role in ICU, Knox Technical Center as administrator of its nursing programs, and supervisor of the Allied Health Program before she was recruited back to MCCN in 2016 as assistant dean of Distance Education. She became associate dean of MCCN’s Graduate and Distance Education Programs in early 2019.

The DNP degree can be completed at MCCN in just 18 months – five semesters – without taking more than two online courses simultaneously:

- The focus is on creating leaders in transforming complex systems
- Doctoral candidates will choose an Elective Specialization that best meets their interests: Leadership in Advanced Clinical Practice, Executive Health Care Leadership, or Executive Academic Leadership
- Every graduate of our DNP program will be eligible for national Evidence-Based Practice Certification (EBP-C)
- Visit mccn.edu/DNP to learn more
Dear Friends,

At Mount Carmel College of Nursing we are dealing with extremes – from being extremely pleased about all the forward progress on our Journey to Transformation, to being extremely resilient about all the changes we’ve made in order to do our part in reducing the impact of COVID-19 on our students, faculty and staff, as well as within our community.

You’ll see inside this issue of the Lamp our joy about the fruits of our progress – notably positive program enhancements resulting from implementation of our Strategic Plan, and the positive physical improvements resulting from Mount Carmel Health System’s $1.2 million investment in our Franklinton campus.

When you visit our website, you may track our rapid response to arrival of the coronavirus and compliance with the Governor of Ohio’s preparedness plan. In addition to taking all of our classes to an online environment to protect the health and safety of our students, faculty and staff, we have made alternate arrangements to the traditional face-to-face Commencement program. It is somehow fitting that the year 2020 was declared to be the Year of the Nurse and Midwife by the World Health Organization, the same WHO leading the response to this pandemic.

Other changes include my saying farewell to MCCN on May 15, as I return to consulting in a new role. These last three years have been among the best in my career – I am very proud of the work I’ve accomplished through collaboration with a top-notch team of administrators from the health system, the exemplary MCCN Board of Trustees, and the faithful faculty and staff members here at the College. I will miss everyone, including the Mount Carmel alumni and most of all, our students. The College will be in the good hands of our Academic Dean, Kathleen Williamson, PhD, RN, who will provide interim leadership needed to continue the legacy of excellence in nursing established by our founders, the Sisters of the Holy Cross in 1903.

The College is so grateful to have you – our readers – stay connected with us. Please know that you are very much appreciated and so essential to continuing the College’s mission of excellence in nursing education.

Ann Marie T. Brooks, PhD, MBA, RN, FAAN, FACHE, FNAP
President, Mount Carmel College of Nursing
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As we continue to implement our strategic plan, focusing on six foundational pillars – Education, Research Clinical Practice, Supportive Environment, Valued Partners and Financial Stewardship – we also continue progress on the physical part of our Journey. MCCN’s Franklinton campus – where the Sisters of the Holy Cross founded Mount Carmel School of Nursing in 1903 – is undergoing many changes. With change comes opportunity and we are delighted and thankful for the continuing work of the Design Group in helping us expand our presence by moving many offices and some classrooms/conference rooms to the former Medical Staff Building adjacent to the College. This space – constructed in the 1980s – is now part of Mount Carmel College of Nursing, and its IT capacity is being upgraded as part of a $1.2 million investment that includes the auditorium. Graced by stained-glass windows that were once part of our original chapel, the auditorium is undergoing a complete renovation to accommodate teaching and other college activities. The building’s beautiful atrium provides a light, airy environment that complements our existing spaces.

The Health Sciences Library also has additional space for MCCN students on the fourth floor of the Center for Learning and Education, creating additional areas for individual and group study. Marian Hall is also freshened, having recovered from minor water damage this past fall and, approximately $430,000 has been invested in new teaching technologies, including specially equipped tables to meet the 21st century needs of our students and faculty. The Eleanor Wilson conference room has been returned to its original purpose as a student chapel, ready to welcome the class of 2024 this fall. Come and visit – our doors are open!
Mount Carmel College of Nursing’s 116th academic year began with a gathering of the newest Nightingales. Freshmen of the Class of 2023, along with transfer students, experienced a Convocation Mass, celebrated by the Diocese of Columbus’ new Bishop, The Most Reverend Robert J. Brennan, which was attended by MCCN and MCHS leadership, honored guests and members of the MCCN Board of Trustees. They were then greeted by members of the Mount Carmel Alumni at the New Student Welcome where they met faculty and staff and learned more about the College.
On May 5, 2019, 241 bachelor’s, master’s and doctoral degrees were conferred upon Mount Carmel College of Nursing graduates, who heard an empowering message from nationally recognized nurse executive Margaret L. McClure, EdD, RN, FAAN. Events preceding Commencement included the Graduate Program Blessing and Recognition Ceremony on Thursday and the Baccalaureate Pinning and Presentation of Student Awards on Friday. Congratulations all!
Mother-daughter graduates included Kerry Fankhauser, MS, RN, UZIT, (left) who is an assistant professor, MCCN, and Taylor Dawley, BSN, RN. Kerry earned her Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) and Taylor earned her Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN).
Kathleen Williamson, PhD, MSN, RN, academic dean, recently was awarded an HRSA (Health Resources and Services Administration) grant for $2 million over the next four years. The grant will enable graduates of MCCN’s Master of Science Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP) program to transition into the workplace through furthering their knowledge and clinical experiences while being employed at partner sites such as Lower Lights Christian Health Center. This residency program will provide training in a primary care community setting that benefits the medically underserved population. HRSA is an agency of the Department of Health and Human Services.

Alumna Jeri Milstead ’57, PhD, RN, FAAN, Named to Hall of Fame
Congratulations to alumna Jeri Milstead, PhD, RN, FAAN, who has been chosen by the American Nurses Association (ANA) to be inducted into the American Nurses Association Hall of Fame in June 2020. Dr. Milstead, who will serve as MCCN’s 2020 Commencement speaker, earned her diploma in Nursing at “the Mount” in 1957, is a past Distinguished Alumnus and recently completed her third term on the MCCN Board of Trustees. Her recognition is a feather in MCCN’s cap and everyone at the College is very proud of her accomplishments that led to this recognition. According to the ANA, the Hall of Fame honors lifelong contributions of individual nurses to the nursing profession in the areas of distinguished service, steadfast leadership, exceptional mentorship, effective advocacy, and innovative efforts.

MCCN and Ohio Dominican University (ODU) have entered an agreement that offers MCCN Graduate Program alumni a direct pathway toward earning a Master of Business Administration (MBA) or Master of Science in Healthcare Administration (MSHA) from ODU by transferring up to 25 percent of their MCCN coursework. This agreement expands our existing partnership that allows ODU undergraduate students to pursue a nursing degree following their graduation from ODU. The two institutions of higher learning share a common mission to provide education in the Catholic tradition: ODU was founded in 1911 by the Dominican Sisters of Peace; MCCN was founded in 1903 by the Sisters of the Holy Cross.
For the first time in MCCN history, 190 sophomore students received a white coat – along with the traditional sophomore pin that signifies the beginning of clinical studies – as part of the inaugural Gold-AACN White Coat Ceremony for Nursing. Based on the "white coat" ceremony in medical schools initiated by the Arnold P. Gold Foundation in 1993, at which students recite a pledge to deliver humanistic, compassionate care, and receive a white coat as a visible symbol of their commitment to the study of medicine. In 2014, the Gold Foundation and the American Association of Colleges of Nursing extended this ceremony to nurses; MCCN was awarded a grant to make the January 12, 2020, ceremony possible. Traditional four-year students from both Columbus and Lancaster campuses – along with students from the Second Degree Accelerated Programs (SDAP and SDAP-Hybrid) – participated in the event, also receiving a Gold Foundation pin inscribed “Keeping Healthcare Human.”

Congratulations, Nightingales!
The military contributions of Mount Carmel nurses trace back to the Sisters of the Holy Cross, who founded Mount Carmel School of Nursing in 1903. During the Civil War, the Sisters had answered President Abraham Lincoln’s call to care for Union and Confederate soldiers wounded in battle. They readily complied, serving with compassion and distinction aboard the U.S.S. Red Rover, a Confederate warship that was captured by the U.S. Navy and refitted for service as a hospital ship. Today, the Sisters of the Holy Cross are considered the first female U.S. Naval nurses.
Kimberly Landrum credits Mount Carmel with giving her the tools she’s needed to continually reinvent herself, and today is described as a guardian angel, helping to advance access to care for women veterans suffering post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD).

After earning her diploma at Mount Carmel School of Nursing in 1982, Dr. Landrum worked nearly 20 years as a staff nurse during which time she joined the U.S. Army Nurse Corps in 1989 and earned a BSN from Capital University in 1994.

“My military experience included working as an operating room nurse and teaching, including a Battle Focus course, where I trained hospital personnel in battlefield first aid and triage,” Kimberly recalls. When she was called up to serve active duty in Operation Desert Storm, she had to leave two young children at home – one in kindergarten and one in second grade.

“After returning to home life, I knew I could not leave my children again, so I eventually ended my military service and didn’t think of it again until I started working on my master’s degree.” In the meantime, she’s worked five years in surgical specialties as a travel nurse, before beginning her graduate studies at Texas Woman’s University in Houston, Texas, earning a master’s in Nursing Education. She is the first recipient of a Jonas Foundation Scholarship to a doctoral student of nursing science there and the first TWU Jonas Scholar to earn a PhD (2018).

Her research, “The Lived Experience of Women Veterans Seeking Healthcare,” a phenomenological study to gain insight into the challenges of women veterans seeking health care through the Veterans’ Administration or private/outsise health care providers, will publish in 2020.

“One of the issues I found with my co-collaborators is that many women who have served do not see themselves as ‘veterans,’ even though many experience PTSD that may be associated with their service,” she notes. “Therefore, health care providers whose patients present with PTSD symptoms should query them about military experience.”

Today Dr. Landrum is the mother of four adult children and a grandmother, and teaches at Oral Roberts University in Tulsa, where she is an associate professor. She also takes nursing students for community nursing clinical experience at the VA, incorporating military and veteran culture into the baccalaureate curriculum.
I’ve visited 12 countries in Europe just since August 2018 when I was assigned to Ramstein Air Force Base (AFB),” says Captain Elizabeth “Betsy” Cassidy, BSN, RN, who earned her mother read an article about a predicted nationwide shortage of nurses. Combining nursing with a career in the military has been an enriching adventure,” Betsy says.

“During my training at MacDill AFB, where I gained Level 1 trauma experience at Tampa General Hospital, I learned early-on the importance of having a mentor at my side and how well Mount Carmel had prepared me for my new role,” she notes. “At MCCN I learned to juggle multiple responsibilities and deal with stress. And, I’m so grateful that Mount Carmel set me on the path of becoming a well-rounded nurse, ready to handle whatever situation arises.”

Betsy has had multiple opportunities to test her education in a variety of settings and situations. After Tampa, she was stationed at Nellis AFB in Las Vegas for three years where she sought opportunities to learn and grow while working in inpatient telemetry and post-anesthesia recovery. She also volunteered for an International Medical Relief mission trip to Vietnam, where she spent two weeks caring for impoverished villagers around Da Nang – including elderly patients who had been exposed to Agent Orange.
Betsy’s two-year tour of duty in Ramstein AFB, Germany, which began August 2018, is less challenging, but just as rewarding as she works in a Family Health Clinic. And, the travel opportunities have been ample, thanks to Europe’s vast public transportation network.

“I also made a few trips home from Germany to visit my and my fiancé’s families in Seattle and to attend an infection prevention course in San Antonio. My first visits to the United States in a long time were quite a culture shock to realize how comfortable it is here in the states,” she recalls. She is hopeful that her next duty station will be a Critical Care fellowship.

“In nursing the learning never stops – whether it be attending a conference, volunteering for medical missions, subscribing to journals, or completing a fellowship, there is always more to learn in a profession that is constantly evolving. I’m very grateful that Mount Carmel helped set me on a path of lifelong learning,” Betsy says.

Her next stop was a short-tour assignment at Ossan AFB in South Korea. “I was on night shift for seven months straight in an ER in a very isolated, extremely cold area, treating anyone with access to the base,” she recalls. “I really learned on-the-fly during some pretty frightening trauma episodes, but fortunately none of our patients died.” During the 30 days leave allotted for the one-year Korean tour, Betsy took side trips to visit Hanoi in former North Vietnam, as well as Cambodia, Thailand and Japan.
Each year, the Mount Carmel Foundation Golf Invitational benefits future scholarships for MCCN students.
Despite the rain, golfers enjoyed a day of golf at Pinnacle Golf Club in Grove City. We’re grateful to all our donors, including Craig Anderson, MD, whose practice, Central Ohio Newborn Medicine, Inc., was the lead sponsor – our 25th Anniversary Sponsor. More than $140,000 was raised to provide scholarships for MCCN students to answer their life’s calling to become professional registered nurses. A special thanks to our donors and volunteers, MCCN faculty, staff and students, and Mount Carmel Foundation colleagues who helped make the 25th outing a success.

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Central Ohio Newborn Medicine, Inc., foursome.

Dr. Craig Anderson, president and CEO, Central Ohio Newborn Medicine, Inc., accepts recognition from Deanna Stewart, president, Mount Carmel Foundation, for his important role as lead sponsor for the 25th Anniversary.

Longtime friend of the College, PNC Bank, fielded a foursome led by George Gevas (third from left), managing director and senior vice president, Corporate & Institutional Banking.
Tracy Riley, PhD, APRN-CNS, CNE, was honored with a state-level award for Excellence in Nursing Education for outstanding achievement by the Ohio Nurses Association in October 2019.

Congratulations MCCN’s faculty and staff members who were honored by being inducted into the 2019 Who’s Who in Black Columbus. Hannah Clayborne, PhD, director of MCCN Diversity and Inclusion Program (left); Shirley Cooley, PhD, RN, CNE, C-EFM, professor (center); and Kim Campbell, PhD, director of Admissions, were recognized by this illustrious organization that celebrates the many achievements and accomplishments of African Americans in the Columbus community.

Accomplishments

WE ARE SO PROUD OF ALL THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF OUR FACULTY AND STAFF AT MOUNT CARMEL COLLEGE OF NURSING
Congratulations to MCCN faculty and staff members who were recognized as honorees of the 15th annual Excellence in Nursing Awards, co-sponsored by MCCN and Mount Carmel Health System Patient Care Services. Educators recognized along with nearly 100 fellow colleagues from the Mount Carmel Health System: honoree Toni Chops, MS, RN, CNE (far left), joined by faculty members Kathleen Williamson, PhD, MSN, RN; Scott Dolan, PhD, RN; and Jami Nininger, DNP, RN. Other Excellence in Nursing honorees are (center) Kim Loscko, DVM; Margaret Stinner, MS, RN; Lori Hill, MSN, RN, CNP; and Roxanne Oliver, DNP, RN, APN, FNP-BC. Not pictured are honorees Nathan Kessler, MSN, RN, and Erin Searle, BSN, RN. Special congratulations to Margaret Stinner, MS, RN, who was named 2019 Educator of the Year.

Ann Marie T. Brooks, PhD, MBA, RN, FAAN, FACHE, FNAP, president, MCCN, was honored with the Lifetime Achievement Award of the American Organization of Nurse Leaders (AONL) in March 2020 at the AONL Annual Conference in Nashville, Tenn. The award honors her as a significant leader in the nursing profession and as a member who has served AONL in an important leadership capacity.
SCHOLARSHIP DINNER
More than 230 Mount Carmel College of Nursing students, leadership and donors gathered in the MCCN auditorium on Sept. 10 to celebrate nursing education. It was a wonderful gathering to recognize the generosity of our gracious donors who provided $740,000 in philanthropic support to help 218 MCCN students pursue their life’s calling of becoming professional registered nurses.

A special feature of this year’s dinner was a co-presentation, The Gift of Education, by Alyssa Fry, senior development officer and Deanna Stewart, president of Mount Carmel Foundation. The ease and flow of the duo’s tandem talk was a reflection of how well the two work together to raise funds on behalf of MCCN’s students.

Alyssa noted there is nothing more important than saying “thank you” to donors who take the time to establish scholarships.

“For me, it’s so inspiring to understand why donors establish scholarships – whether in recognition or in memory of an alumnus or classmate of Mount Carmel or in fulfillment of a sense of responsibility to the future of health care in our community,” says Alyssa. “In many cases, it’s in memory of a loved one who received compassionate care from a Mount Carmel nurse.”

Deanna, who thanked donors for keeping in mind what Mount Carmel means to the community, said “In addition to educating future generations of professional registered nurses, there are so many mission-focused, amazingly impactful things Mount Carmel does across central Ohio every day as we serve together in the spirit of the Gospel as a compassionate and transforming, healing presence within our communities. Again, thank you not only for giving the Gift of Education but also for being present with us – it means more than you know.”
In 2014, the Mount Carmel College of Nursing Board of Trustees established the Ann E. Schiele Presidential Endowment Fund to recognize the unparalleled commitment and dedication to the field of nursing education by President and Dean Emeritus Ann E. Schiele, PhD, RN, who retired in 2015 after 53 years of service to Mount Carmel.

Carol McGuire, former Board of Trustees member who serves as chair of the Schiele Advisory Committee, notes that – over the past three years – nearly $275,000 has been awarded to MCCN students and faculty.

“It is a privilege and a pleasure to serve with others on this committee in support of the students with scholarships and the faculty with grants,” Carol says. “This Fund was founded to continue the exemplary work of Dr. Schiele for many years to come and we are gratified to fund so many deserving students and faculty at MCCN.”

To date, 44 scholarships have been awarded and several grants have been made for faculty development as well as for special programs that focus on outcomes. Among faculty programs with exemplary outcomes is MCCN’s First Year Advisor Program, which has been funded for three consecutive years. Anne Hinze, MA, MS, who is coordinator, Academic Resource Center, as well as professor, First Year Experience, identified the need for the First Year Advisor Program and applied for the initial grant.
“One of the great things about teaching at a small college is that students take the same courses, mostly from the same professors. Therefore, they know best what is needed to be successful and – as upperclassmen – are delighted to have the opportunity to pass that knowledge along to those who come behind them,” says professor Hinze.

She adds that student mentors provide advice to peers on topics such as time management, setting weekly goals and developing good study habits. The Program is in place on both campuses and the student mentors are paid through the grant.

“The greatest factor for success for underclassmen is having accountability to someone,” she says. “For those providing advice, they are developing valuable leadership skills that will serve them well throughout their nursing careers.

“My colleague on the MCCN-Lancaster campus at Fairfield Medical Center, Samantha Schmitz, and I agree that it’s a win-win for all students and for the faculty as well,” professor Hinze adds.

Student mentors in the Peer Advisor Program join Anne Hinze, MA, MS, coordinator, Academic Resource Center and First Year Experience professor (far left), for the 2019—2020 planning session. They are, (front row, left to right): Langley Krutko, Tori Williams, Alison Allman and Natalie Elswick; (back row, left to right): Alexis Powell, Ilyas Nur, Jephte Poinvil and Megan Cleveland. Not available for the photo are Samantha Schmitz, MSN, RN, instructor, First Year Experience, MCCN-Lancaster campus at Fairfield Medical Center, and student mentors on the MCCN-Lancaster campus Abbey Kunkler and Alyssa Bolin.

CHAIN OF POSITIVE IMPACT

“All through high school I knew I wanted a job where at the end of the day I could be certain that I had impacted someone’s life in a positive way and nursing will allow me to do that,” says Victoria “Tori” Williams, who is a junior in MCCN’s Traditional BSN program on the Franklinton campus.

Already Tori is having a positive impact on others – as a Peer Advisor. She is stepping up for her second year in the role, having benefited from the program when it was initiated her freshman year.

“One of my Peer Advisors also happened to be my Residence Advisor – when I was struggling my freshman year because of being away from home for the first time and adjusting to college life, I had a hard time prioritizing academically. My advisor helped me realize that I had to put my studies first,” she recalls. “I’m so happy I’m able to help other students the same way I was helped.”
MOORED IN LOVE
“Steve says we don’t just have strong ties to Mount Carmel, we have an anchor and a chain,” chuckles Monica Walter, BSN, RN, as she smiles at her husband of 44 years.

Not only were Monica and Steve Walter – as well as the 14 siblings they have between them – all born at Mount Carmel West, but their 42-year-old son was born there, as well.

Those are all significant anchors, but the one set deepest was in 1976 when Monica’s then 50-year-old father suffered a heart attack and was brought by squad to the Franklinton hospital.

“At the time, I was just out of nursing school and my husband of only 10 months stayed right at my side,” she recalls. “I was impressed by how Dr. Robert Murnane cared for my dad, who went on to live another 38 productive years. The experience of seeing first-hand what it meant to advocate for patients, including personally watching over my father, had a huge impact on my practice as a nurse.”

Just three years later, Monica came to work at Mount Carmel, where she always put patient advocacy first. She was on the forefront of same-day surgery, preadmission testing and surgery scheduling, and when she retired after 30 years in 2009, she was surgery coordinator preparing patients for vascular bypass surgery.

Steve was always nearby, assigned to Franklinton as shift sergeant with the Columbus Police Department. A veteran of the Tet Offensive who served with the 632nd Security Police Squadron in the Mekong Delta, Vietnam, he also served 21 years as a reservist with the U.S. Marine Corps.

“Even though I never attended Mount Carmel – I went to Grant Hospital School of Nursing for my nursing diploma because, with six sisters, I was lured by a private room in the dorm – MCCN’s mission and vision as a Catholic institution of higher learning, means a lot to us,” Monica asserts. She earned her Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) at Franklin University before Mount Carmel School of Nursing transitioned into the College.

Still side-by-side, Steve and Monica recently chose to strengthen their ties – to honor their anchors – to Mount Carmel by establishing the Monica and Stephen Walter Scholarship Endowment Fund through a $100,000 Planned Gift. This generosity is in addition to the five $1,000 nursing scholarships they have already given annually since 2011, and will ensure that students with financial need will continue to receive the couple’s help for many years to come.

“We’ve always lived very frugal lives,” Steve notes. “We took simple vacations, live in a modest home and sometimes drove clunker cars, but it’s been a great life together and we want to give back where we know many future nurses will be positively impacted for a long time,” he adds.

**PROVIDING FOR FUTURE AND PRESENT**

Given the Walter’s extreme generosity, it was no surprise to Alyssa Fry, senior development officer for the College, when they both readily said “We want to help,” when she described the need to establish a $25,000 Student Emergency Fund.

“When Alyssa explained how easily unexpected financial needs can derail a student’s plans, we understood,” Monica says. “In reading student essays, Steve and I have been amazed at the life experiences some students have overcome in answering their call to nursing and we want to be an ‘anchor in the storm’ for someone to make sure a temporary setback did not turn into a permanent loss for the nursing profession.”

When they retired together, Monica volunteered for Dr. Ann Schiele (now president and dean emeritus, MCCN), helping patients at Lower Lights with their prescriptions. Monica started reading students’ scholarship essays for Dr. Schiele and Steve soon joined her. Today, she volunteers in the ED and NICU at the new Mount Carmel Grove City hospital.

**GENEROUS TOGETHER**
GREETINGS FROM YOUR ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Alumni Vision
The vision of the Mount Carmel Alumni Association is to support Mount Carmel College of Nursing through philanthropic, networking and mentoring initiatives.

Alumni Library Accounts:
Visit www.mccn.edu/library to register for your account providing 24/7 access to news and information.

Follow us on Facebook
by visiting www.facebook.com/mcalumniassoc

Send Us Your Email Address
MCCN and the Mount Carmel Alumni Association are sending more and more information via email. Send your email address to alumnioffice@mccn.edu or visit our website.

Please stay in touch with the Alumni Relations office about any changes in your contact information as soon as you can so you don’t miss any news! Also, please let us know your career path since graduation so we can include it in an upcoming issue of the Lamp.

Alumni UPd

Homecoming Weekend 2020!
Mark your calendar now, because we are looking forward to seeing you at Homecoming: Sept. 11 and 12, 2020. Saturday’s event will once again be held at The Grand Event Center, Grandview, just minutes from MCCN. Watch for further details on the College website www.mccn.edu.

Reconnect for Your 50th Reunion!
Seeking classmates from Mount Carmel School of Nursing, Class of 1970! We are trying to make contact so we can keep everyone informed about our 50th reunion in 2020! Please pass the word to your classmates and contact one of your class representatives: Kathy Morehead Daubmire (kedgrand@yahoo.com) or Linda McGill Taylor (ltua@aol.com) via email or connect with them via Facebook at www.facebook.com/mcalumniassoc.
Has your name changed since graduation?
If so, please don’t forget to notify us so we can both amend your educational record and your contact information for receiving College and alumni news. Please note the following documentation is needed for your record to be changed: marriage – copy of driver’s license with new name or copy of marriage certificate or marriage license; divorce – copy of divorce decree, probate documentation, or court order of legal name change; or Legal Name Change – copy of court order of legal name change. Documentation may be emailed to Maggie Miller-Rea, coordinator, Records and Registration, or mailed to her at MCCN Records and Registration Office, 127 South Davis Ave., Columbus, OH 43222-1504.

You are needed!
The MCAA Event Planning Committee needs your ideas and input for future events, alumni/student projects and other opportunities for 2020 and beyond. What would you like to see offered? Wine tasting, travel, ball games, community service projects? And, of course, if you can help by serving on the committee or helping with an activity, that’s always welcome, too.

Assist with Mock Interviews for Senior Students
In collaboration with professor Erin Dougherty, we have the opportunity for alumni to assist with mock interviews as part of her Nursing 408 Caring Practices in Transition to the Professional Role course. Research shows that job-seekers are more likely to get the job if they have written and rehearsed answers to common interview questions. These interviews, held on the Franklinton Campus, enhance students’ preparation for real-world job interviewing.

For further information about the above opportunities to engage, please contact the Office of Alumni Relations at 614.234.5681 or email at alumnioffice@mccn.edu

MCCN alumni with disabilities are invited to help educate others by sharing their professional experience of working as a nurse with disabilities. October is National Disability Employment Awareness Month (NDEAM), which is marked by embracing people with disabilities through recognition of their contributions in the workplace and community. Mount Carmel College of Nursing’s Student Accessibility Services is celebrating NDEAM by inviting alumni to be present and share their story at a student learning event to be held at the College on October 27, 2020. If you are interested in participating in this event, please send an email to MCCN staff member, Alyss Zohar, who is accommodations coordinator, at accessibility@mccn.edu or call her at 614.234.4393.

Your College Email Address
Please note that to maintain your College email address, you must sign into a web browser and access your email account at least once a year. Annually in August, MCCN’s IT department completes a “purge,” deactivating any email whose owner has not signed into a web browser to access their mccn.edu account within the preceding 12 month period.
Many alumni “came home” to reunite and celebrate with classmates and other Mount Carmel alumni during Homecoming Weekend 2019.

September 27 – At noon on Friday, festivities began with all alumni invited to the College to visit, reconnect and tour. Many members of the Class of 1969, celebrating their 50th anniversary, gathered in the Marian Hall Rec. Room, now minus the jukebox of days gone by. They were later joined by others who attended Virtual Reality in Nursing: The Simulation Sensation.

That evening the College reception was attended by more than 60 alumni from various graduation years, including those from the Honor Classes of ‘59, ‘64, ‘69, ’74, ’79 and ’14.

September 26 – On Saturday evening, 165 alumni and their guests gathered at The Grand Event Center in Grandview, beginning with a social hour where they visited and viewed silent auction items donated by generous area businesses and alumni, with all proceeds for Mount Carmel student scholarships.

A memorial table offered alumni the opportunity to pause and remember classmates who have passed over the years. On display was the last hand-made quilt donated by Dorothy Gorenflo Cluff, Class of 1942, before her passing last January at the age of 98.

Alumni from 16 states, representing graduation years from 1944 to 2014, travelled to Columbus, with many staying the entire weekend to visit and have class get togethers between scheduled activities.

Before a delicious buffet dinner, Pat Steele Skunda ‘72, ’10, ’14, MS, RN, Mount Carmel Alumni Association (MCAA) President, called the Annual Meeting to order. Lynne Johnson Huff ’69, offered the blessing over the meal and MCCN Student Ambassadors were present to assist alumni as needed through the buffet line.

Following dinner, Suzanne Belknap Martin ’66, JD, RN, was introduced as the emcee for the evening festivities. Ann Marie T. Brooks, PhD, MBA, RN, FAAN, FACHE, FNAP, President, Mount Carmel College of Nursing, welcomed alumni and their guests and provided a College update. Dr. Brooks then recognized and presented awards to Theresa Cragen Draher ’78, ’00, ’14, MS, RN, AGCNS-BC, CCRN, and Shannon Hunt ’10, BSN, RN, BSBA, CVAHP, CMRP, Lean Black Belt, who are recipients of The Distinguished Alumnus Award and the Rising Star Alumnus Award, respectively (See page 30.) Each received an engraved crystal bowl; their names are also engraved on the award plaques that are displayed in the MCCN Health Sciences Library.

President Skunda introduced Nuna Abdallah and Sara Shipley, two of the six students who received MCAA scholarship awards
at the 2019 Scholarship Dinner. She then provided the MCAA Annual Report, which was followed by introduction of MCAA Board candidates and the membership vote.

Among highlights of the evening was the introduction of the honor classes during which Pat and Suzanne shared some trivia for that time period. The evening concluded with announcement of the silent auction winners, visiting and dancing to music provided by a DJ.

Class of 1969, celebrating their 50th anniversary.

Mary Page Dye, Class of 1944, was perhaps the alumna with the longest history – celebrating her 75th anniversary since graduation. In 1941, when Mary began her studies, Mount Carmel School of Nursing became one of the first schools in the nation to receive National League of Nursing Accreditation. In Mary’s day, only unmarried women were admitted; it would be a decade before the first male student graduated in 1951; students were not permitted to be wed until 1958. In 1990 the School transitioned into today’s Mount Carmel College of Nursing.
Mount Carmel Distinguished Alumnus Award

This year’s recipient of the time-honored Distinguished Alumnus Award is Theresa Cragen Draher ’78, ’00, and ’14, MS, RN, APRN, AGCNS-BC, CCRN-Alumnus, a three-time alumna who has a record of outstanding achievement as both a nurse and a nurse educator.

Teaching the next generation of nursing professionals, Theresa is an instructor at MCCN, where she has researched and presented on topics that include investigating the nature of caring in nursing connectedness, as well as collaborative grading as a tool for consistency. She is a member of Sigma Theta Tau, Rho Omicron chapter.

Theresa, who earned a diploma in nursing from Mount Carmel School of Nursing in 1978, says her parents dropped her off at the door in 1975 and she never left. She has been employed by Mount Carmel since 1976 (unit secretary), transitioning to the role of staff nurse at West in 1978, has had positions of increasing responsibility and today is a staff nurse in the Post-Anesthesia Care Unit at Mount Carmel Grove City. She earned her BSN at MCCN in 2000 and her master’s in Adult Gerontology in 2014. She is licensed as an APRN (advanced practice registered nurse) in Ohio and is board certified by the ANCC as an Adult-Gerontology Clinical Nurse Specialist. She has been a member of the faculty since 2007 and today is a senior level instructor in the Traditional undergraduate BSN program. She makes clinical site visits, mentoring students in Caring Practices in Transition to the Professional Role.

Although her accomplishments as an educator are notable, she says “I never wanted to be anything other than a nurse; it’s a true calling, a service to God through service to humanity.” Indeed, her commitment to others comes through in letters written for her nomination. One writer, noting that a loved one had been under Theresa’s care, wrote, “I could go home and sleep at night knowing my family member had impeccable care.” It is Theresa’s commitment to patients and families that is providing MCCN students with powerful, professional role modeling.

Her role modeling apparently began at home, because all three of her children have followed her into the nursing profession. The two youngest are also MCCN alumni: Molly earned her BSN in 2012 and is a staff nurse at an outpatient surgery center and Brian earned his BSN in 2013 and master’s in 2018 and is a family nurse practitioner at a clinic. Her oldest, Kelli is a CRNA (Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist), and although not an MCCN alumna, gave Theresa and her husband a wonderful son-in-law, Jason, and their four grandchildren, Libby, Lacey, Jason, Jr., and Rylan.

Health care truly is a family affair, as one of her two sisters, Peggy is a 1982 MCCN graduate, and Theresa met her husband Mark in the ICU at Mount Carmel where he worked as a certified cardiac perfusionist, and they have been married 35 years.

Rising Star

New in 2019 is the Rising Star Alumnus Award, presented to a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) graduate within the last 10 years who has a record of exceptional achievement in the profession and a broad sphere of influence and community service.

Shannon Hunt, BSN, RN, BSBA, CVAHP, CMRP, is the first recipient. She is vice president, academic initiative team, for Premier, a company that helps health care organizations build strategy and improve overall performance. Shannon says she uses critical thinking skills honed in MCCN’s Second Degree Accelerated Program (SDAP), from which she graduated 2010. She entered SDAP as a high-ranking medical organization executive who was driven to achieve a deeper understanding of nursing values and the continuum of care. Shannon currently resides in California.
THANK YOU FOR GIVING THE GIFT OF NURSING EDUCATION

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IN Memory of Daniel Watt
Barbara J. Watt

Mount Carmel College of Nursing requests your understanding if there are any errors or omissions on this list — we publish names and credentials as they are provided to us and strive to correctly — and gratefully — acknowledge every gift.
IN MEMORIAM

Mount Carmel College of Nursing and its alumni honor the following graduates who have passed away and extend our sympathy to their family and friends.

Nancy Ann Dwyer Beathard — Class of 1949
Margaret Cherry Krouse Fallerius — Class of 1949 (September)
Alice Jule Dadosky — Class of 1952
Elizabeth “Betty” Uhl Bishop — Class of 1954
(aunt of Julie Bishop Kennard Class of 1999)
Martha Marlen Lyon — Class of 1955
Jane Granger Edington — Class of 1957
Patsy Schmelzer Weithman — Class of 1958
Bea Mart Sink — Class of 1959 (sister of Judy Mart
Macnamara Class of 1963 and sister-in-law of
Barbara Sink Mantz Class of 1959)
Pat Bernhard — Class of 1963
Marjean McLaughlin Buckner — Class of 1963
Joy Traband Parillo — Class of 1963

We also acknowledge the loss and honor the memory of those whose lives have touched the Mount Carmel family.

Husband of Mary Catalano Waterfield (1966)
Mother of Emily Reeg Lantz (1975)
Mother of Lynda Rosemeier Martin (1976)
Mother of Susie Loik Parsons (1976)

Mother of Emily Reeg Lantz (1975)
Mother of Lynda Rosemeier Martin (1976)
Mother of Susie Loik Parsons (1976)

Donna Vernon Kirkpatrick — Class of 1966
Julia Ann Holden Crosley — Class of 1973
Kristin Kubiac Crain — Class of 1975
Nancy Muncie Stone — Class of 1979
Robin L. Roxey Studlien — Class of 1982
William Edward Duff, Jr. — Class of 1985

Mother of Cindy Folio (1978) and Judy Folio Beattie (1983)
Thomas Mallory, MD
Michael Wilkins

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Tell us what you’re up to!

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<th>TELEPHONE</th>
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<th>EARN ANOTHER DEGREE?</th>
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Send to:
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Mount Carmel College of Nursing
127 South Davis Avenue
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alumnioffice@mccn.edu

***Are you firmly planted in the digital age? Then fill out our online form to let us know what’s new with you. Log on to the college website at www.mccn.edu and click on Alumni.
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