



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: March 12, 2015

Contact: Evangeline Conley, Public Affairs Officer

Phone: (716) 862-8753

Cell: (716) 512-9338

E-mail: Evangeline.Conley@va.gov

**VA Western New York Healthcare System Celebrates Certified Nurses Day
*Honoring Nationally Board Certified Nurses***

VA Western New York Healthcare System is celebrating Certified Nurses Day on March 19, 2015 by honoring its board certified nurses. The following nurses are being recognized for their professionalism, leadership, and ongoing commitment to excellence in patient care:

Kimberly Abramo: National Board for Certification of Hospice and Palliative Nurses: Certified Hospice and Palliative Care Nurse

Nancy Arbeiter: American Nurses Credentialing Center: Adult Nurse Practitioner

Rebecca Bakowski: National Gerontology Certification by the National Federation of Licensed Practical Nurses Education Foundation (GC-LPN)

Jonathan Barber: American Nurses Credentialing Center: Adult Nurse Practitioner

Fern Beavers: Certified Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS)

Wendy Borrelli: American Nurses Credentialing Center: Certified Critical Care Nurse and Academy of Medical-Surgical Nurses: Certified Medical Surgical registered nurse

Deborah Bossman: Certified in Ambulatory Care Nursing by the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC)

Sharen Brummert: National Board Certification for Massage Therapy and Bodywork: Massage Therapy and Bodywork

Andrew Burns: American Nurses Credentialing Center: Certified Critical Care Nurse

Celene Cannon-Tinder: American Nurses Credentialing Center: Family Nurse Practitioner

Sandra Chenelly: American Nurses Credentialing Center: Gerontological Nurse Practitioner

Cynthia Christopher: National Board for Certification of Hospice and Palliative Nurses: Certified Hospice and Palliative Care Nurse

Michelle Colello: American Board of Wound Management: CWCA (Certified Wound Care Associate)

Karen Conway: American Nurses Credentialing Center: Adult Nurse Practitioner

Marjory Craver: American Nurses Credentialing Center: Adult Nurse Practitioner and National Alliance of Wound Care: National Certification in Wound Care

Lori Deeb: American Nurse Credentialing Center: National Certification in Case Management (CCM)

Thomas Dolata: Certified Clinical Nurse Specialist in Psychiatry/Mental Health (CNS)

Barbara Drozek: American Nurse Credentialing Center: Medical Surgical Nurse

Susan Dunz: American Nurses Credentialing Center: Family Nurse Practitioner

Susan Engel: American Nurse Credentialing Center: Gerontological Nurse and Commission for Case Manager Certification: Certified Case Manager and NYS certified Clinical Nurse Specialist in Oncology

Laurie Engler: American Nurses Credentialing Center: Family Nurse Practitioner

Michael Fachko: Certified Medical-Surgical RN by the Medical-Surgical Nursing Certification Board

Michael Fedak: American Nurses Credentialing Center: Perioperative Nursing Practice -Certified Nurse Operating Room CNOR

Susan Fittante: American Nurses Credentialing Center: Certified Critical Care Nurse CCRN

Maura Folaron: American Nurses Credentialing Center: Family Nurse Practitioner

Michelle Gaylord: American Nurse Credentialing Center: Gerontological Nurse ANCC and National Certification Board for Diabetes Educators (NCDDBE): Certified Diabetes Educator

Patricia Gill: American Nurses Credentialing Center: Adult Nurse Practitioner

Patrick Goeller: American Nurses Credentialing Center: Adult Nurse Practitioner
Karen Hanover-Marshall: American Nurses Credentialing Center: Certified Nurse Operating Room
Carol Hayes Ed.D, MSN, RN, BC-NE, VHA-CM: American Nurses Credentialing Center: Nurse Executive
Kevin Hennessy: American Nurses Credentialing Center: Adult Nurse Practitioner
Beth Henry: American Nurses Credentialing Center: Nursing Professional Development
Cory Herzog: American Association of Critical-Care Nurses (AACN): Acute and Critical Care Nursing – Adult CCRN
Jeanine Hinman: American Nurses Credentialing Center: Certified Diabetic Educator
Linda Hirtzel: Board of Certifications for Emergency Nursing: Certified Emergency Nurse (CEN)
Teresa Houston: Oncology Nursing Certification Board (ONCC): Oncology Certified Nurse
Roberta Hughes: American Nurses Credentialing Center: Adult Nurse Practitioner and National Certification Board for Diabetes Educators: Certified Diabetes Educator
Chris Hull: American Nurses Credentialing Center: Adult Nurse Practitioner
Judith Jacumski: American Nurses Credentialing Center: Adult Nurse Practitioner
Dorothy Johnson: Competency & Credentialing Institute (CCI): Certified Nurse - Operating Room (CNOR)
Patti Jorgensen: Nephrology Nurses Certification Commission: Certified Nephrology Nurse
Natasha Kleiman: NP Hospitalist
Kathleen Klippel: Oncology Nursing Certification Board (ONCC): Oncology Certified Nurse
Kristin Kowalske: American Nurses Credentialing Center: Certified Critical Care Nurse (CCRN)
Jamie Kowalski: American Academy of Nurse Practitioners: Family Nurse Practitioner
Marcia Krzywicki: American Nurses Credentialing Center: Adult Nurse Practitioner
Ruth Larson: American Nurses Credentialing Center: Adult Nurse Practitioner
Patricia Lind: American Nurses Credentialing Center: Pediatric Nurse Practitioner
Alexandra Lucius: Academy of Medical/ Surgical Nurses: Medical Surgical Nursing Certification Board
Maria Mahar: American Nurses Credentialing Center: Certified Critical Care Nurse
Carol Mangino: American Nurses Credentialing Center: Family Psychiatric and Mental Health Nurse Practitioner
Theresa Markey: National Board for Certification of Hospice and Palliative Nurses: Hospice and Palliative Nurse
Tami Martin: American Association of Critical-Care Nurses (AACN): Acute and Critical Care Nursing – Adult CCRN
Brenda McCarley: Nephrology Nurses Certification Commission: Certified Nephrology Nurse
Alexandra McGeary: Oncology Nursing Certification Board: Oncology Certified Nurse
Karen McGrath: American Academy of Nurse Practitioner
Deborah Medakovich: National Board for Certification of Hospice and Palliative Nurses: Advance Practice Hospice and Palliative Nurse, and a NYS certified Clinical Nurse Specialist in Oncology
Robin Mignella: National Board for Certification of Hospice and Palliative Nurses: Hospice and Palliative Nurse
Gina Miosi-Murphy: Nephrology Nurses Certification Commission: Certified Nephrology Nurse
Sandra Moreno: American Nurses Credentialing Center: Family Nurse Practitioner and American Nurses Credentialing Center: Certified Nurse Operating Room
Cindy Morgan: American Nurse Credentialing Center: Gerontological Nurse
Mary Murphy: American Association of Critical-Care Nurses (AACN): Acute and Critical Care Nursing – Adult CCRN and Board of Certification for Emergency Nursing: Certified Emergency Nurse (CEN)
Patricia Nirelli: National Alliance of Wound Care: National Certification in Wound Care (WCC)
Obot Obot: Adult Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurse Practitioner (PMHNP-BC)
James Pacino: American Nurses Credentialing Center: Family Nurse Practitioner
Kathleen Padlick: Board Certified Gastroenterology RN by American Board of Certification for Gastroenterology Nurses (ABCGN), also board certified as Nurse Executive, Advanced (NEA-BC)
Patricia Pastore: American Nurses Credentialing Center: Family Nurse Practitioner
Janel Podsiadlo: American Nurses Credentialing Center: Family Nurse Practitioner and a second certification in as an Acute Care Nurse Practitioner
Mary Rasey: Oncology Nursing Certification Board: Oncology Certified Nurse
Tina Reynolds: American Nurses Credentialing Center: Adult Nurse Practitioner
Janet Rizzo: American Nurses Credentialing Center: Nurse Executive
Christine Rizzone: American Nurses Credentialing Center: Adult Nurse Practitioner

Laura Russillio: American Association of Critical-Care Nurses (AACN): Acute and Critical Care Nursing – Adult CCRN

Kimberly Schwinn: National Gerontology Certification by the National Federation of Licensed Practical Nurses Education Foundation (GC-LPN)

Leeayn Scrivani: Wound Ostomy Continence Nursing Society (WOCN): Certified Wound/Ostomy Nurse

Mary Shaffer: American Nurses Credentialing Center: Family Nurse Practitioner

Doris Siddiq: National Board for Certification of Hospice and Palliative Nurses: Hospice and Palliative Nurse

Barbara Sion: American Nurses Credentialing Center: Certified Nurse Operating Room

Elaine Smith: American Nurses Credentialing Center: Family Nurse Practitioner

Gloria Stanz: National Association for Healthcare Quality: Certified Professional in Health Care Quality (CPHQ) Quality Assurance

Renee Sylvies: Board of Certifications for Emergency Nursing: Certified Emergency Nurse (CEN) and certified by NYS DOH as a NYSAFE (sexual assault forensic examiner)

Kimberly Szymanski: Pediatric Nursing Certification Board: Pediatric Nurse Practitioner in Primary Care

Tina Traber: American Nurses Credentialing Center: Adult Nurse Practitioner (ANP) and Oncology Nursing Certification: Advanced Oncology Certified Nurse Practitioner

Jeffrey Tinen: American Association of Critical-Care Nurses (AACN): Acute and Critical Care Nursing – Adult CCRN

Dawn Triggs: American Nurses Credentialing Center: Nurse Executive (NE-BC)

Connie Vanderbles: American Nurses Credentialing Center: Adult Nurse Practitioner

Barbara Varco: National Gerontology Certification by the National Federation of Licensed Practical Nurses Education Foundation (GC-LPN)

Kathleen Vertino DNP, PMHNP-BC, CARN-AP: Addictions Nursing Certification Board: Certification in Addictions Nursing – Advanced Practice and American Nurses Credentialing Center: Agency: Adult Psychiatric & Mental Health Nurse Practitioner

Erica Volpe: American Nurses Credentialing Center: Certified Critical Care Nurse CCRN

Susan Vukman: National Alliance of Wound Care: National Certification in Wound Care WCC

Donna Wassel: American Association of Critical-Care Nurses (AACN): Acute and Critical Care Nursing – Adult CCRN

Ann Wiertel: American Nurses Credentialing Center: Family Nurse Practitioner

Sara Yuhnke: National Board for Certification of Hospice and Palliative Nurses: Hospice and Palliative Nurse

Susan Zakrzewski: American Nurses Credentialing Center: Family Nurse Practitioner

Patricia Ziegler: American Nurses Credentialing Center: Adult Nurse Practitioner

Carlos Ziminsky: American Association of Critical-Care Nurses (AACN): Acute and Critical Care Nursing – Adult CCRN

Board Certification of nurses plays an increasingly important role in the assurance of high standards of care for patients and their loved ones. Nursing, like health care in general, has become increasingly complex. While a registered nurse (RN) license provides entry to general nursing practice, the knowledge-intensive requirements of modern nursing require extensive on-going education, as well as a strong personal commitment to excellence by the nurse.

VA Western New York Healthcare System encourages national board certification for all its nurses. There are numerous nursing certification specialties such as medical-surgical, pediatric, pain management, cardiac vascular, oncology, hospice, case management, emergency nursing, critical care and many others. Many nursing certification bodies exist to serve the full range of specialized nursing care offered in the contemporary healthcare system; national nurse-certifying bodies should be accredited by either the Accreditation Board for Specialty Nursing Certification (ABSNC) or the National Organization for Competence Assurance (NOCA).

Please join VA Western New York Healthcare System and the Nation's national nursing certification organizations in honoring these hardworking and dedicated nurses for promoting continuing excellence in the nursing profession.

#