



For Immediate Release

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HUNTSVILLE MEMORIAL HOSPITAL GRADUATES 21 IN THE 44TH CLASS OF THE JOE G. DAVIS SCHOOL OF VOCATIONAL NURSING

(Huntsville, TX) – The final words of the Florence Nightingale Nurses’ Pledge were spoken unanimously by the 21 graduating members of this year’s Joe G. Davis School of Vocational Nursing at Huntsville Memorial Hospital (HMH). They were “...devoting me to the welfare of those committed to my care.”

Upon hearing those words from the 44th graduating class of the LVN school, many in the audience in the First United Methodist Church of Huntsville were moved to tears.

“You are entering healthcare in a most challenging time and have chosen a career in a field that is highly regulated,” said Sally Nelson, CEO at Huntsville Memorial Hospital, in her opening remarks to graduates. “But you are also in a very unique profession where you can demonstrate your level of care and commitment to your patients every single day.”

Nelson went on to talk about the four year Bachelor of Nursing program that will begin in 2011 at Sam Houston State University. “Until their health professions’ building is on the ground, our hospital will be providing space for classrooms right here at home. Even if you do not ever choose to continue to a higher level of nursing excellence, we are working with Sam Houston State University to make the opportunity available to you should you decide to move to a higher level of nursing education,” she said.

Nelson went on to say that except for the birth of a healthy baby, when families bring a loved one to the hospital, the situation can be one of the most stressful events in their lives. She implored the HMH graduates to always remember to provide their patients with the assurance of the care they will be providing and to confirm with them that they will be a team working through the process together.

Heather Bauer, LVN, herself a 2006 graduate of the program at HMH, was the guest speaker for the ceremony. “Three days after graduation I was at work at Huntsville Memorial on 3 East. I was scared and shy, but prayed for confidence and strength to help me help my patients. By the end of the week, I felt more prepared to assist my patients and discovered how and when to ask for help.”

Today, Bauer is a preceptor for the new LVNs coming to Huntsville Memorial and is on the path to her RN license. A new LVN class begins on December 28; applications for the 2011 class will be accepted in March.

Catherine Igodo, wife of graduate Christian Igodo, LVN sang two special songs for the graduates – one being “You Lift Me Up.” She blessed the graduates, and especially blessed them for the shoulders upon which so many will depend.

Annually the Patsy Woodall Award is presented to the student who exemplifies leadership in the class. This year, the award was presented to Andrea Bell. Her entire class and all in attendance gave her a standing ovation to express their confidence in that selection.

Prior to leaving the ceremony, Susan White, Chief Nursing Officer at HMH asked each of the students to “look deeply into the palms of your hands and you will see all generations of your family and all generations to come. Let us celebrate your commitment to their care.”

Congratulations to the Class of 2009. They include:

Racheal Bailey, LVN
Bobby Bates, LVN
Andrea Bell, LVN
Rhonda, Blair, LVN
Holly Botard, LVN
Joe Cano, LVN
Evalee Chenault, LVN
John Fawcett, LVN
Elizabeth French, LVN
Kandy Hightower, LVN
Deanna Horton, LVN
Christian Igodo, LVN
Heidi LeClair, LVN
Jennifer Libby, LVN
Karrie Love, LVN
Osreca Miller, LVN
Kristin Mizrany, LVN
Pamela Ogle, LVN
Alivia Ronsonette, LVN
Hollie Selman, LVN
Angela Wills, LVN

CUTLINES

Graduates of the Joe G. Davis School of Vocational Nursing at Huntsville Memorial Hospital not only had a graduation ceremony and a reception in their honor, but also a breakfast the day before graduation where students were recognized for their efforts.

About Huntsville Memorial Hospital

Since 1927, Huntsville Memorial Hospital has provided benevolent and charitable health care services, setting the standard for quality, proficient health care for the residents of Walker County and the surrounding communities. At Huntsville Memorial, we have great people who are passionate about your health. We have outstanding physicians, motivated leadership, and compassionate staff. We are your friends and neighbors – dedicated to excellence in everything we do – right here at home.