Nurses Association of The Commonwealth of The Bahamas

Leadership For Change Programme

Honouring "Trailblazers In Nursing"
"Telling Our Story"
1903-2005

Luncheon
Friday, May 6th, 2005 at 1:00 p.m.
Radisson Cable Beach Resort
Nassau, Bahamas

Education and Research Committee
Message from the Minister of Health

I am indeed delighted to have been asked to provide a message for this booklet, which features outstanding nurses who have been deemed trailblazers, in the healthcare system in general and the nursing profession in particular, within The Commonwealth of The Bahamas.

The Nurses Association of The Commonwealth of The Bahamas is to be commended, for taking the initiative and spearheading this special occasion, which recognizes the magnanimous contributions of those unsung heroines and heroes of nursing in The Bahamas.

These Bahamian Florence Nightingales, who often laboured under great difficulties with limited resources, demonstrated that they were capable, caring, and compassionate, as they provided nursing services for their clients. They endured the strict disciplinary training of that era, and because of this, the nursing profession today, is more the richer for it.

Reflection is an important process for the way forward of any discipline. The opportunity for these persons to tell their story, also provides an avenue for their contemporaries to appreciate from whence they came and provides guidance, regarding the direction in which the profession should be headed.

Therefore, it is with great pleasure and pride, that I salute the pioneers of nursing in The Bahamas. Nursing remains a vital component of the healthcare team and we appreciate the contributions of the Trailblazers in Nursing, who have laid a strong foundation for the nurses of today.

As Minister of Health, I congratulate you all, and extend best wishes for a successful celebration of your past. May Almighty God continue to bless all your efforts, as you continue to care for others.

Marcus C. Bethel, M.D.
Message From The
Director Of Nursing

I am pleased for the opportunity to provide this message and commend the Nurses Association of The Commonwealth of the Bahamas for identifying these pioneers who have, in their own unique ways, blazed a trail for us to follow.

I am certain that Bahamian nurses are all aware of the significant contributions of our Trailblazers, Ms. Hilda Valerie Bowen, the first Bahamian Matron, and Director of Nursing.

Over the years, these Trailblazers have overcome tremendous hardships and difficulties in the care for clients. They have earned the responsibilities, almost single-handedly. Trailblazing is hard work, lonely and stressful, for often the course has not been charted and outcomes uncertain and difficult to project.

It is imperative that we reflect upon the contributions made by non-Bahamians, like Mrs. Monica Shemans Knowles and Ms. Mary Baham of The United Kingdom, pioneers in the field of Nursing Education. "Nursing Sates" from The United Kingdom, Canada and the Caribbean, who were Trailblazers in the Clinical Areas. We Phyllis Adlard, Mary Gibson, Mary Oates, Alison Ferguson, and Edith Griffiths. Additionally, there were Registered Nurses, Midwives/"Grannies" who worked in the Family Islands, Sylvia Carty, Lydia King Rolle, Brundil Murrell, Damaria Johnson, Minnie Green and Gelda Kemp. Community Nursing Trailblazers, Penelope Rodgers, Little Tynes and Angela Bain-Johnson. Private Duty Nurses Vivienne Longley, Marie Symonette Rolle, Castilla Amede Walls, Mary Butler and many others worthy of mention. They have blazed trails, along which we follow with pride, dignity and confidence. I salute all those who are being honoured. I also challenge my younger colleagues, to emulate the fine qualities exhibited by our predecessors, in sustaining excellence.

Mary L. Johnson (M.D.)
Director of Nursing

Message From The
President, Nursing Association of the Commonwealth of the Bahamas

The Nurses Association of the Commonwealth of the Bahamas offers congratulations and gratitude to our Trailblazers of Nursing for 103 years of passionate pursuit of the Nursing Profession. As we celebrate Nursing in the Bahamas, we are reminded of the early days, when nursing was the vocation providing economic independence, whereas now, nursing is chosen in competition with other careers. While practicing our power advocacy, we are to place emphasis in respecting life and human dignity, the hallmarks of our profession.

To enjoy the present healthcare status without considering our roots, will be a gross injustice to our pioneers because it was not always there. Why? Because you paved the way for us to authorizing us to improve; by sharpening our abilities, increasing our knowledge and performance by adding value, making it safe and good for all. We cannot underestimate the power of influence and the impact we possess, in making a difference in the lives of others.

I pray the richest of blessings to you and yours for the years to come.

Ampusam Symonette, President
Nurses Association of the Commonwealth of the Bahamas

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The vision of a trailblazer covers a wide expanse. It is not determined by what is regarded as the realities of the day, but manifests a personal conviction of the way things ought to be. Great nurses have an innate sensitivity to the physical, psycho-social and spiritual needs and a compassion that compels them to find ways to bring relief to human needs. So it was with nurses in the past and is with the present Nurses in this noble Nursing Profession in The Bahamas.

The Nurses Association through the Education and Research Committee, Leadership For Change Programme is TELLING OUR STORY - THE STORY OF NURSING. It is the story of nurses who epitomize the very essence of caring. These Trailblazers, both living and dead, rose to the occasion grasping the opportunity to give quality nursing care to the people of The Bahamas. It is for their discipline, hard work, commitment, dedication and excellence to nursing that we honor them today.

I wish to express my profound gratitude to all those persons who contributed to the success of this Trailblazer’s Luncheon, especially relatives of all Trailblazers. Your enthusiasm and support have won my sincere gratitude and deepest appreciation. Thank you!

Trailblazers: Your work is not complete until every tear is wiped from every eye. "Go Light your Candle Go Light Your World."

Nurse Willamae Therese Hamilton-Stuart (Mrs.)
Bahamas Coordinator Leadership for Change Programme, ICN

It is with pleasure that I extend congratulations to the trailblazers of the noble nursing profession. Your dedication & commitment to quality nursing care is the foundation which we continue to build. I wish God’s blessing as you continue to serve the people of our great nation.
Profiles

In Memory
Trailblazer Nurse Naomi Anna Christie

Entered as a Teacher into Nurse training in 1937, graduated 1941 as Nurse Midwife at the Bahamas General Hospital. This trailblazer’s contribution was to the Private Section of the hospital as a Nurse Midwife and member and supporter of the Nurses Association of The Commonwealth of The Bahamas. She received the Independence Silver Jubilee Medal and Certificate; and was honored by the Methodist Society of the Bahamas when the home for the elderly was named in her honor, The Naomi Anna Christie Home for the Elderly in 2003.

In Memory
Trailblazer Nurse Maud Louise Albury

Trailblazer Maud Louise Albury began her nursing career in 1926 by assisting the nurses at the Bahamas General Hospital by sterilizing instruments and messaging patients. 1938 entered the profession at the Jackson Memorial Hospital and returned home to become a nurse supervisor and a resident trainer of nurses at the Princess Margaret Hospital. This Trailblazer 1958 was awarded the certificate in Xray techniques by the Mandeschool for Medical Assistants. Received qualification from the Lincoln Institute of Practical Nursing Los Angeles California. In 1964 she was awarded a Government Scholarship to become a Xray Technologist. A founding member of The Bahamas Red Cross Society Bahamas and the Seton Club.

Trailblazer Nurse Miriam Storr

Began as a nurse at City Hospital in Nottingham and Midwifery training at Helensburg and Dumbarton Hospitals, Scotland respectively. Her Postgraduate training in theatre technique and management along with orthopedic techniques and management were completed at St. Allege’s Hospital, Greenwich, England.

This trailblazer in 1967, did supervisory visits 2-3 times per week to Family Island clinics and health centers, sometimes on public holidays and weekends. Miss Storr prides herself in having visited every island and government clinic in the Bahamas in the course of her duties.
Profiles

Trailblazer Nurse Ione Smith

This Trailblazer qualified as a nurse in 1949.
• 1956- Completed Psychiatric Nurse training
• 1976- Attained a diploma in group dynamics and nursing intervention at Long Island University Hospital.

Highlights of her career include:
Assisting Nursing Assistant to receive training to become Clinical Nurses.
Facilitating attendants training to become Psychiatric/Geriatric Assistant.
Serving on the Board of Examinations for the Nursing Council for more than 25 years. This Trailblazer nurse is now a volunteer with the Cancer Society.
Her philosophy-"share your Knowledge with staff and prepare them to take over."

Trailblazer Nurse Beverley Ford

1957 Graduated as a Registered Nurse in Kent, England
1959 Graduated as a Midwife in Essex, England
1960 Obtained a certificate in Tuberculosis Nursing, Brompton
1970 Obtained a Certificate in Nursing Administration, UWI

Honoured as a Trailblazer for her efforts in establishing the Community Mental Health Clinic.

Trailblazer Nurse Lelio Gibbs-Fountain

Her nursing career started at The Bahamas General Hospital in 1939-1943; The Red Cross Association in 1948 and in the Community Clinics from 1952-1982. She had a burning desire to help the less fortunate families in the community where she worked. She would make sure they had a hot meal and clothes on their backs.

This Trailblazer negotiated for the government to establish Community Health Nursing training in the Bahamas; lead the nursing team in developing of the Southern part of New Providence, known as the Coconut Grove Area in 1961-1982. Nurse Fountain instilled in nursing students the value of integrity and record keeping.
Profiles

Trailblazer Nurse Esmeralda Rutherford

-First Bahamian to obtain the Midwifery Teaching Diploma.
1963-1965 Liverpool & Bristol Maternity Hospital
  State Certified Midwife (SCM)
  United Kingdom
1960-1963 Broadgreen Hospital
  State Registered Nurse
  United Kingdom
As a trailblazer she contributed to the Nurses Association of the Commonwealth of the Bahamas
  • 1982-1983 Secretary
  • 1978-1982 President
  • 1977-1978 1st Vice President
  • 1969-1971 Chair Membership & Publicity Committee
  • 1967 Member
  • Gold Medalist (Nurse of the Year) Broadgreen Hospital 1973
  • Queens Certificate and Badge of Honor for the Contribution to the field of Midwifery (1985)

Trailblazer Nurse Ruth Mullar

Nursing Career Spans 1968-1984

Experience includes: Nursing Office in Charge of Operating Theatre-PMH
Supervisor of Surgical Area, Hospital Administrator
Deputy Permanent Secretary Ministry of Health

1954-1960 State regulated Nurse & State Certified Midwife
1968-1969 Nursing Administration-Royal College of London
1972-1974 Hospital Administration-University of Toronto
1987 MBA-University of Miami
1988 Certified Professional Accountant at Florida International College
1994- Appointed: Financial Secretary, Ministry of Finance & Planning

Trailblazer Nurse Carlotta Klass

"The nurse who kept breast feeding alive in the Bahamas!"
Graduated as State Registered Nurse & State Certificate Midwife, England Wales
This Trailblazer:
1967- Employed as Nursing Sister in the Bahamas
1973- Graduate of the First Community Health Nursing Programme in the Bahamas
  • First Nurse to initiate breast feeding classes for new mothers
  • First Natural Breast Feeding Coordinator in the Bahamas

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Profiles

Trailblazer Nurse Gloria Ferguson

Registered Nurse & Midwife, her nursing career spans some 44 years.
- Holds a certificate in teaching from UWI
- Senior lecturer in Midwifery and Child Health
- PHD in Philosophy - Louisiana Baptist College

This Trailblazer is:
- Past President of the Nurses Association of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas
- Pastor of the Mt. Ararat Baptist Church
- 1st Secretary of the National Organization of Women's Association in The Bahamas.
- A preacher, teacher, lectures both locally and internationally
- Recognized for her contribution to the advancement of women in the Bahamas in 1966

Trailblazer Nurse Shirley Danielle

Graduated in 1956 as Registered Nurse, Midwife & Psychiatric Nurse.

Worked at the Duchess of Windsor Clinic, (Baillon Hill Road Clinic) and where care focused on mothers and children.

1972 - Graduated from the First Community Health Nursing Programme in the Bahamas.

Trailblazer Nurse Isabelle Johnson-Pratt

Nurse Isabelle Johnson-Pratt entered the Bahamas General Hospital School of Nursing on January 23, 1950. To become a General Nursing, Midwife, Psychiatric and Community Nurse. She worked in the Family Islands, the Robert Smith Ward, and the Geriatric Hospital. In 1998, she is retired from the Nursing Profession. She has taught “Care of Children and The Elderly” at The College of The Bahamas and is presently an Assistant Caregiver for Foster Home Children at The Bahamas Social Services.
Profiles

Trailblazer Nurse Viola Elizabeth Sweeting Butler

Entered nurse training on March 1946 at Bahamas General Hospital & completed May 1950. Worked especially on Male Surgical. She was sent to Bennetts Harbour, Cat Island on coronation day.
In 1968 she spent 6 months in Plymouth School of Nursing Devon, England.
1988 was awarded M. B. E. Is a member of Central Baptist Church.

Trailblazer Nurse Pat Bethel

1979-obtained a certificate in Burns & Plastic Surgery-Queen Victoria Hospital England
Honoured today for
Establishing Burns Unit at Princess Margaret Hospital
Contribution to the Nurses Association

Trailblazer Nurse Virginia Mortimer

1949- Graduated as a Registered Nurse
1949-1959 Worked in Cat Island, Abaco, Nichols Town and Andros
1962- Officer in charge of Chest Ward for more than 20 years

This Trailblazer labour in the dynamic, and noble field of nursing she is truly a testimony of the saying “There is no calling higher than that of giving service to others.”

Nurse Mortimer dedicated her career in the Public Service to the delivery of health care.
Profiles

Trailblazer Nurse Ivy Pearson

- Known for her delivery of babies in Spring Point and Salina Acklins.
- Trained as a midwife in 1958 at the Princess Margaret Hospital and ultimately becoming a Trained Clinical Nurse.

This Trailblazer completed 30 years of uninterrupted service where she always functioned at a very high standard demonstrating an attitude of profound conscientiousness in perfecting her duties.

A true Trailblazer in Nursing.

Trailblazer Nurse Carmen D. Hepburn

This trailblazer graduated with the Floating Trophy Award and Recipient of: Nurse of the Year Award in 1958, Chief Medical Officer Award and Steel Perkins Eye Award.

1971 - Wanting to continue in her family tradition as a teacher Mrs. C.V. Hepburn ascertained her teaching certificate from the Royal College of Nursing in England.
1979 - Obtained The Advanced Nursing Education Certificate, UW1.
1985 - Bachelor Of Arts Degree, UW1.

Today The Nurses Association thank Mrs. Hepburn of her contribution as treasurer for more than 6 years and her attendance at conferences regionally and internationally.

Trailblazer Nurse Shirley Saunders

A Nurse and Midwife, this trailblazer studies extended to Jamaica & St. Lucia to qualify in the area of Family Planning and Family Life.

She has many firsts:
- 1984 - First nurse to study and establish Family Planning Services in the Bahamas.
- First nurse to study Family Life and Adolescent Fertility and Behavior.
- 1972 Participant in the first Community Health Nursing Programme in the Bahamas.

This trailblazer will always be remembered by Community Health Nursing Students whom she supervised, for her Philosophy “always Look at the principle, what is the principle here?”
Profiles

Trailblazer Nurse Catherine Wilson

Trailblazer Nurse Catherine Conyers Wilson, given 47 years of nursing service
1953- Entered Nursing School with Leaving Certificate.
1957-Graduated with General Nursing, Psychiatric and Midwifery under Marron Dean an English Nursing Sister
1960-1961 Joined the team of nurses led by Sister Forbes to give health care in the home.

Trained in the U.K. as a District Nurse.
Nurse Wilson is Honoured for telling the story of nursing through her writings
"Another Bahamian Nightingale."

Trailblazer Nurse Catherine Chisholm

Entered the Clinical Nursing class in April 1962. She later received a Certificate of Competence on the 28th February 1965 as a Trained Clinical Nurse.
Graduating as a Midwife in 1968 she worked on many Family Islands such as Mayaguana, Coopers Town, Moores Island and Marsh Harbour.
In 1987, she became the Pastor of the Good News Evangelistic Baptist Church.
I realize that being a good nurse is very good and helpful in many ways; but being a servant of the Lord has brought about spiritual and miraculous healing in the lives of many families and individuals," says Mrs. Chisholm
"To God be the Glory."

Trailblazer Nurse Lucy H. Darville

In 1939 she began her outstanding career as a Registered Nurse. In 1955 completed an observation course at the Psychiatric Hospital in Boston, Massachusetts.
A true pioneer in nursing in 1956 when the Sandilands Rehabilitation Centre opened in Fox Hill, Nurse Darville proved unselfish and dedicated service to the Female Psychiatric Wards and the Geriatric Hospital.
Profiles

Trailblazer Nurse Lydia King-Rolle

Nursing Career 1958-1996
Graduated from the Bahamas General Hospital in 1957 and assumed the duties of Graduated Nurse. Shortly thereafter, in the same year, she earned Certificates in Psychiatry and Midwifery. In December, 1957 she was sent to Simms Long Island where she served as Relief Nurse in the Local Clinic. On completion of their assignment, she was transferred to Steventon, Exuma on 29th March, 1958.

This trailblazer is no ordinary nurse, her Nursing career is exemplary as she single handedly delivered quality healthcare to the residents of mainland Exuma and the Cays for many years. ‘Nurse’ has performed hundreds of deliveries during her career. She performed deliveries (in most cases without assistance) from The Forest to Barranterre and she also travelled across the waters to Black Point. Her philosophy “a stitch in time saves nine”

Trailblazer Nurse Pearline Bethel Cooper

Nurse Pearline Bethel Cooper profession entered the nursing, 1951. Her nursing career spanned over 53 years. Upon completion of training of the Community Health Nurse Training. This trailblazer worked in Maternal and Child Health Clinics, School Health Services, Post Natal Clinics, Home Nursing Services and District Nursing. She completed a tenweek Samaritan Ministry Program with the Catholic Dioceses, which dealt with management of HIV/AIDS patients.

Trailblazer Nurse Julia Butler Albury

This trailblazer began Nurse Training in 1932 under the training of Matron Annie Bains, Chief Medical Officer, Ms. Merriel Crookshark, Sister Smith and Sister McKellar all of whom were English Nursing Sisters.

This trailblazer spent 28 years in Harbour Island beginning in 1928, without a doctor, telephone, electricity and Government accommodations. Nurse Butler Albury is also remembered for her contribution to Nursing on the Female Surgical Ward.
Profiles

Trailblazer Nurse Barbara M. Farrington Curtis

She began her career as a R/N, R/M. Spending time at the Rand Memorial Hospital & Spanish Wells, Eleuthera. Nurse Barbara Curtis graduated with credits in the Teaching Methods Course at the Royal College of Nursing in London. This Trailblazer is Known as the:
- First Clinical Nurse Instructor in the School of Nursing, Princess Margaret Hospital in 1966.
- One of two nurses instrumental in setting up the Health Education Department
- Developed the first Family Life Education Proposal for Government Schools.
- Established the first Health Education Council
- Developed and implemented the first ever AIDS Prevention Programme
- An organist at Faith Temple Ministries.

Trailblazer Nurse Laban Brown

He entered the school of Nursing at the Bahamas General Hospital on March 5th 1946. He graduated as a registered Nurse in May 1949 and retired from nursing after 35 years of service.
As a trailblazer Mr. Brown took an advanced course in Psychiatric Nursing at the School of Nursing in Waverly, Massachusetts, U.S.A. In 1969 he received the B.E.M. Queen’s Certificate and Badge of Honour for faithful service. He is the recipient of several awards for long and faithful service.

He is now serving at Zion Baptist Church (East St. & Shirley St.) as a Deacon and an Evangelist. His favorite quotation, “Lord I commit my soul, spirit, and body unto you. Jesus is the captain of my soul. Praise the Lord. Hallelujah! Amen.”

Trailblazer Nurse Edris E. Turner

Nurse Turner began her nurses training at the Bahamas School of nursing in 1948. She graduated in 1953 as a Registered Nurse, Midwife and Gerontology Nursing.
Nurse Turner has worked extensively on the family islands namely Simms -Long Island, Marsh Harbour and Dundas Town -Abaco, McLeans Town and East End -Grand Bahama, Spanish Wells - Eleuthera, Sandy Point and Moore’s Island -Abaco.
Ms. Turner is a dedicated worker and always willing to help her fellowmen.
Her philosophy is” I expect to pass through this world but once and any good thing therefore, that I can do, or any kindness that I can show to my fellowmen, let me do it now; Let me not defer or neglect it, for I shall not pass this way again.”

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Profiles

Trailblazer Nurse Pamela G. Ferguson

1957-1960 pursued professional nursing at Mercy Hospital School of Nursing, Burlington, Iowa; studied Pediatric Nursing at Cardinal Glennon Memorial Hospital, St. Louis, Missouri and at St. Bernard's Hospital in Council Bluffs, Iowa. 1974- Began employment with the Ministry of Health. This trailblazer, in 1980, completed the First Ward Management Course ever offered in the Bahamas. 1981- Appointed Infection Control Nurse

Received certificates from the Centers for Disease Control, Atlanta, Georgia 1983 and Harvard Medical School, Boston, Mass. in Nosocomial Infections Diseases and Hospital Epidemiology 1985. Certificates in Management Skills and Advanced Training for Infection Control Nurses from CAREC Port of Spain, Trinidad, 1987.

Also involved in the religious and civic activities in the Roman Catholic Church.

Trailblazer Nurse Veronica Poitier

Mrs. Veronica Katherine Poitier entered the Nursing Profession at the Princess Margaret Hospital School of Nursing. Upon completion of the Nursing and Midwifery programmes, she was posted to West End Clinic in 1964. 1973 she pursued a course in Community Health Nursing and was posted to Eight Mile Rock Clinic as a Community Health Nurse.

Trailblazer Nurse Mr. Lincoln R. Davis

Mr. Lincoln Davis began his nursing career in 1949 and completed Registered Nurse training in 1954.

Mr. Davis has worked in psychiatric nursing at Sandilands Rehabilitation Centre from 1959, where he rose through the ranks from being Staff Nurse to Senior Nursing Office to his final post as Acting Principal Nursing Officer until his retirement 1989.

Mr. Davis has received extensive training in London, England in Registered Psychiatric Nursing and Nursing Administration.
Profiles

Trailblazer Nurse Yvonne M. Christophhs

Yvonne received her State Registered Nurse Training at the Bahamas School of Nursing and additionally completed successfully her Midwifery Training at Aberdeen Maternity Hospital in Aberdeen, Scotland. Since 1988, Yvonne has been actively involved in the field of Disability, both as an employee and a volunteer. She served two terms (4 yrs.) as President of the Bahamas National Council for Disability and was hired as its first ever Administrator. Yvonne began and completed successfully, the formation of the Bahamas first ever Home Care Agency called Nurses N.N.O.W Co. Ltd. The Agency brought together Physician, Hospitals, Clinic, Insurance Companies and the General Public under the banner of what is called “Managed Care” globally. This Agency continues to lead the way locally in Managed Care to this day.

Trailblazer Nurse Nelie B. Dames

Nurse Nelie B. Dames commenced her nurses training in August, 1955 at the Bahamas School of Nursing. In 1958 Nurse Dames was posted to Nicholl’s Town Community Clinic, Andros, where she served as a Staff Nurse/Midwife.

This dedicated and dependable Nurse has given exemplary service to the residents of North Andros for forty plus (40+) years. She is most deserving of this honour bestowed.

Trailblazer Nurse Gwendolyn M. Turner

1957-1999 Career Span 50 years

She joined the Public Health Department in 1967, worked in varying roles throughout the Public Health system in New Providence, Blue Hill Road Clinic, And’s Town clinic, Fox Hill Clinic and Flemming Street Clinic and served in temporary capacities at many of the clinics on the Family Islands.

Nurse Turner graduated in 1953 as a Registered Nurse and Mid-wife with additional training in Psychiatric Nursing and Public Health Nursing. She attended many courses including the public health nursing course from 1973-1974 and the Family Planning Administration course in Kingston, Jamaica.
Profiles

Trailblazer Nurse Maud A. Knowles Outten

Maud Antoinette Knowles Outten nursing career spans some 44 years. In April of 1964 she became a Registered Nurse/Registered Midwife and worked throughout the Princess Margaret, Geriatrics and Sandilands Hospitals. She attended West Indies School of Public Health (Jamaica) in 1971 and received a Public Health Nursing certificate and the Royal Society of Health Certificate for Public Health, School and T.B Nurse. In 1973 Nurse Outten worked in all areas of Public Health and supervised the following: Chest, Fox Hill, Annes Town and Coconut Grove Clinics, Post Natal and School Health Services. This Trailblazer was a member of the Bahamas Nursing Council Examination Board, Field guide for Professional, Midwifery and Community Students.

Trailblazer Nurse Evelyn M. Prescod

Evelyn Prescod professional education qualified her as a Registered Nurse/Midwife (U.K.) She was awarded the prize for Medical Nursing after the final exams of the Paddington Group of Hospitals. Post Basic Nursing Courses were completed in Operating Room techniques and Premature Infant Care. As a trailblazer Mrs. Prescod was seconded to the Department of Nursing education to spearhead the development and teaching of the first Community Health Nursing Program for the Bahamas. P.A.H.O. approved the program for the training of Caribbean Community Health Nurses. Following retirement, Mrs. Prescod obtained the Ontario College of Nurse Certificate of Competence in Nursing, which enabled her to practice as a registered nurse and parent craft counsellor in Ontario, Canada.

Trailblazer Nurse Castella Bowleg

She obtained her Nursing Education at the Princess Margaret Hospital Training school both as a Registered Nurse and Midwife. She worked as a Staff Nurse in various departments at the Princess Margaret Hospital with much of her experience in the operating theatre at the School Of Nursing as a Tutor. As a trailblazer we salute you for your contribution to the Bahamas and The Nurses Association of the Commonwealth of the Bahamas since 1961 in the various capacities:

* Coordinator for the opening of the International Council of Nurses Leadership for change Global Prog.
* Secretary • Treasurer • Vice President • Assistant coordinator for the CNO Conference 1982
* President for four years • A Trustee Member presently • Volunteers at Red Cross • Work in the Church
Profiles

Trailblazer Nurse Brendel L. Cox

1955 Graduated as a Registered Nurse and Midwife. 1981 Completed Community Health Nursing Program.

This Trailblazer served as President of the Nurses Association of the Bahamas between 1974 and 1975.

After her full-time career as a Nurse, she began voluntary community work in Fox Hill, ministering to the less fortunate for seven years. Wednesdays was known as 'soup day' where she cooked and delivered soup. She is still involved with Mount Carey Union Baptist Church's soup kitchen.

In 2001, the Fox Hill Concerned Citizen's Association presented her with a Josiah Award in recognition of her outstanding service in the Fox Hill community.

Trailblazer Nurse Brenda A. Campbell Simms

This Trailblazer’s nursing career spans some 23 + years. Began Nursing in 1960, graduating in 1964 as a R/Nurse Midwife.


First Nurse qualified at the Princess Margaret Hospital as a Health Visitor at the West Indies School of Public Health, Jamaica.

Read for the Diploma in Community Health at the University of the West Indies completing the First Research in the area of Public Health in the Bahamas on Maternal and Child Health Nursing.

Trailblazer Nurse Lucinda Forbes

Career spans some 35 years plus. 1962 - Qualified as a Nurse Midwife.

This Trailblazer in 1973 participated in the first Community Health Nursing Programme in the Bahamas. Completed the Diploma in Community Health at the University of the West Indies. Acted as Principal Nursing Officer in Community Nursing Services for a number of years.
Profiles
Trailblazer Nurse Patricia Isaacs

In 1957 trained as a Professional Children's Nurse - Great Ormond Street Hospital, London, England.

Returned to The Bahamas as The Nursing Sister in charge of Children's Ward at P.M.H.

There realized that given the necessary training and experience, fellow Bahamian Nurses could match and surpass the highest standards of world wide first class nursing care.

Trailblazer Nurse Rosaline Knowles Johnson

Graduated in 1955 with qualifications in: Midwifery, Psychiatry and Proficiency Nursing Certificates. As a Staff Nurse she worked in all areas of nursing throughout the Bahamas General Hospital now known as the Princess Margaret Hospital.

In December 1973 she successfully completed the first Community Health Nursing Programme in The Bahamas.

This Trailblazer we commend for: President of the Community Nursing Social Club 1983-1986; Secretary of the Community Nursing Social Club 1986-1989; Pastoral Care and Counseling Ministry and a member of the Holy Cross Parish Nursing Ministry/Samaritan Ministry, Holy Cross Family Circle of Prayer. A dedicated Sunday School Teacher, and member of the Anglican Church Women (ACW).

Trailblazer Nurse Ephelia Munnings

Began her Nursing Career in 1936, graduating in 1940 as a General Nurse, Midwife and Psychiatry. First Qualified Nurse to work at the Seafood Factory and Clinics in West End, Grand Bahama with responsibility for the area including Sweeting's Cay.

Began District Nursing Services under the Red Cross which was later taken over by the Government.

Nurse-in-charge of the Blue Hill Road Clinic, this Trailblazer negotiated, lobbied and successfully encouraged The Bahamas Government to begin the Training of Community Health Nursing in the Bahamas in 1972.

In addition, Mrs. Munnings, a musician has established the 7:30 a.m. Choir at Holy Family Catholic Church.
Profiles

Trailblazer Nurse Barbara Reckley


This Trailblazer trained as Community Health Nurse - 1981 appointed as one of the first Clinical Perceptions in the Bahamas 1966.

Trailblazer: Worked as only Nurse in Marsh Harbour Community from 1973 - “Always there for the Community” Delivered babies, cared for emergencies.

Trailblazer Nurse Burton Smith

Nursing career expands some 45 years.
Sojourner of a Distinguished Gentleman and Trailblazer.
1953 - Assistant Male Attendant - Mental Hospital

1954 - Entered Nurse Training at Bahamas General Hospital. 1957 - Graduated as Registered Male Nurse (only one) Class 79 - with Certification in Psychiatric Nursing. 1971 - Orthopedic Nursing and Operating Theatre Technique - United Kingdom

Worked with best Doctors - Dr. Granville Bain, Dr. Rassin, Dr. Earl Farrington and Dr. Clinton Thines.

Congratulations to this distinguished Trailblazer. You are truly “our hero! The wind beneath our wings.”

Trailblazer Nurse Boleyne Nixon

Nursing Career spanned 1955-2002 - 47 years
This Trailblazer graduated as a Registered Nurse, Registered Midwife. 1973 Graduate of the First Community Health Nursing Programme in the Bahamas.

Worked - Children’s Ward, Children’s Chest Ward, Family Planning and Family Islands.
Known Trailblazer in Nursing in Farmer’s Cay.
Profiles

Trailblazer Nurse Vivian Tyees

Hails from Long Island. In 1942 she graduated as a Nurse from Bahamas General Hospital. Trailblazer spent various time working in Abaco and Bimini.

1972 - First Bahamian to be appointed Director of Red Cross.

Started the following programs - Meals-on-wheels and Disaster Preparedness.

Trailblazer Nurse Patrinilla Pelevaux

Began her Nursing career in 1950 and returned in 1994 as a Tutor in Nursing. This Trailblazer has many first.

- Started the Central Sterile Supplies Dept. 1954
- Trauma Nurse Specialist at P.M.H. 1983
- Nurse to manage the Sir Victor Sassoon Heart Foundation Clinic with Dr. Maude Stevenson and Dr. Jude from its inception to 1970. (Also accompanied patients to hospitals in Florida)
- Emergency Flight Nurse
- Nurse to travel with Out Patient Doctors for Clinics on Family Islands. (1 day Clinics)

Trailblazer Nurse Edna Moss

At age 35, she commenced her granny midwife training under the tutelage of Drusilla Dorsette in Cat Island, her birth place. In the early sixties, as a learner granny midwife, she received her clinical skills training in the patient’s home, with the minimal of resources. Mrs. Moss practiced Midwifery by listening to the fetus directly from the pregnant mother’s abdomen, with her bare ears, without a fetal scope auscultation. She learnt to differentiate the swishing sounds of the placental / maternal flow and the definitive bounding sound of the fetal heart.

Edna Moss moved to Nassau and commenced her duty in Maternity Ward, Princes Margaret Hospital in 1972. She was given in house training to embellish her skills on a special competency Project established by the Ministry of Health to Standardize all traditional Midwifery practices.
Trailblazer Nurse Ethel Cox-Collie

Was born on the 16th June, 1925. Upon completion of her academic education, she entered the nursing programme at the Bahamas General Hospital, graduating in 1948, as a Registered Nurse. She was one of the founding members of the Bahamas Graduate Nurses Association and served for several years as a trustee for the organization.

Trailblazer Nurse Helena “Babs” Sealy-Ingraham

Nursing career spans 1942-2002. Graduated with honors as a Registered Nurse with Psychiatric and Midwifery Training for The Bahamas after contributing to the Private Section for 15 years in 1962. “Babs”, this trailblazer returned to the government service and was sent to Freeport in 1967 and returned to work at the Gereatric Sandilands Hospital. She remembered that the mode of transportation in Freeport during her stay was is little trains of the rack called the “Putt-Putt”

Trailblazer Nurse O’Neil W. Rolle

This trailblazer gave his service as a Male Nurse to the Public for 21 years. O’Neil loved the field of nursing, Princess Margaret Hospital was his home. He was always willing to help someone.
Trailblazer Nurse Ursula Evangeline Sealy

Graduated in 1940 as a Midwife then extended training, graduating as a Registered Nurse 1946. This trailblazer worked on the Family Islands later returning to the hospital to establish the ECG Unit.

Trailblazer Nurse Vivenne Longley

Nursing Career spanned 1943-1969. This trailblazer graduated as a Registered Nurse in 1947. 1960-1968-President of Nurses Association. 1967 initiated correspondence with ICN to gain membership for the Nurses Association at the National Level. Devotion & service was this trailblazer mantle.

Trailblazer Nurse Monica Butler McKinney

Began her training by completing the one year Midwifery Course then continued by qualifying as a General Nurse Registered Nurse under the “Sister Apple B” her peers was Nurse Monica McKinney trailblazer did Private Duty Nurse for many years.
In Memory Of

Trailblazer Nurse Lelura Martin

A Jamaican immigrant, this trailblazer spent her entire career of Nursing in 50 years as a Midwife in the Bahamas. She died in 1957. This trailblazer will be remembered for her humanitarian Christian attribute.

Trailblazer Nurse George Washington Forbes

This trailblazer career spans from 1960-2000. A graduate of St. Augustines College this trailblazer entered the Nursing Profession as the only Male of his class. This trailblazer is known for his caring, dedicated, sensitive, devoted nurse by his patients.” Nursing is the Forbes Life”.
This trailblazer was one in a million.

Trailblazer Nurse Alice Jones

Born in 1903 Nurse Alice Hill Jones graduated from Buckley Training School New York in the early 1925, completing. The state board certificate in 1926. This trailblazer is the first qualified Bahamian Public Health Nurse. In 1940 was appointed head of the Duchess of Windsor Clinic now Baillou Hill Road Clinic. Nurse Hill Jones through her work played a key roll in the development of Community Health in the Bahamas. Member of the British Empire 1956.
In Memory Of

**Trailblazer Nurse Vera Isadora Knowles**

In the early 1920's, Nurse Vera Isadora Knowles was trained as a Nurse and Midwife at The Bahamas General Hospital. She became a Head Nurse, and was appointed Acting Matron on several occasions. This trailblazer served the community with her midwifery skills and held a private school to help educate the surrounding areas.

**Trailblazer Nurse Ruth Eloise Gardiner**

Nursing Career Span 1938
1941 Graduated in 1941 • 1942 First Nurse stationed at Governors harbour Eleuthera • 1945 relief Nurse in Bimini, Freeport Grand Bahama, Sandy Point, Abaco, Cat Island, Bluff Eleuthera, Long Island, Crooked Island, Fresh Creek, Andros, Mayaguana. This Trailblazer was sent to Turks & Caicos to act as Matron for 3 years. We say thanks you for willingly giving your youth and knowledge to bring relief to the suffering in the Family Islands of the Bahamas.

**Trailblazer Nurse Angela Ruth Carnell Bain Johnson**

Nursing Career Span 1923-1993
1941-1944 Graduated as a General Nurse, Midwife and Psychiatric Nurse. A specialist in Communicable Diseases, this trailblazer will be remembered as the “Nurse on the bicycle” in the areas of Grants Town & Bain Town.

**Trailblazer Nurse Hazel Darling**

This trailblazer gave pioneering service in the Operating Theatre of Princess Margaret Hospital for many years. She also stood shoulder to shoulder with doctors such as Dr. Clinton Thomas, Dr. Graham, Dr. Farrington and Dr. Granville Bain. Nursing students of 1960-1970’s will be forever grateful for the Assistance of Nurse Hazel Wells Darling.
The Pastor, Officers and Members
of
The Remnant Tabernacle Of Praise Church Family
Congratulate
Nurse Patrinella Deleveaux
for the positive contributions you have made to the development of the profession of Nursing in The Bahamas.
May God bless you richly!

Nurse
Patrinella
Deleveaux
Congratulations!
You are worthy of the recognition.
Enjoy It!

Your hubby, J. Edison
Congratulations
Evangelist Laban H. Brown

For your dedicated service to Nursing in the Bahamas.
From
Doctor H.A. Simmons
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The Pastor, Leadership & People of Mother Zion Baptist Church
East & Shirley Streets (Downtown)
Nassau, The Bahamas

Salute
Trail Blazer Nurse Laban Brown
For your invaluable service to God and Humanity, your labour of love is an example to all and is a foundation that others can build on.
May the Almighty Healer continue to guide and direct you as you perform this vital service for the very young and not so young.
Congratulations!!!

to

Evangelist Laban H. Brown

Trailblazer Who
Through Prayer, Dedication, Faith, Sacrifice and Service as unto the Lord continue to leave a path in the field of nursing for others to follow.

from: Daddy Brown

Continue to

"Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy path."

The Family
Rosaline Knowles Johnson

Our mother, grand mother, friend, mentor and confident. We watched her work hard through it all remain dedicated and loyal to both her family and friends, but most of all her work and her church.

We are happy to say how proud we are of Mom's accomplishments and ask today that God continue to bless her on her mission of love to her family and all.

Christine & Marin, Valerie, Lee and Willis, Krista & Anthony.

As we celebrate over 103 years of Nursing in The Bahamas, it gives me great pride and pleasure to know that I have been apart of this noble, unique, history and pay tribute to our trailblazers in nursing and by the same extension, recognize their contribution to the health of the country.

Join us in this time of celebration and national pride as we honor our "Trail Blazer in Nursing"
Congratulations
&
Best Wishes

Mrs. Ironaca Morris-Baker
from your
Loving Husband & Family
Congratulations
Nurse Pearline Cooper

Mother You Are A Woman Of Worth

A Mother's love is truly priceless; Worth more than diamonds, silver, or gold
We recognize her sacrifices. As, through the years, our lives unfold.

She taught us all about God's word. With unending faith, her voice was heard.
Her patient heart came from above, For us to cherish 'Sweet Mother's love.'

Mother's don't judge you, even if you're wrong. Their love is steadfast, loyal and strong.
She sows good seeds, from up above. Then cultivates them with her love.

A Mother's love is rare, indeed. She takes care of our every need.
Even when her golden hair turns gray, 'Sweet Mother's love is here to stay.'

From: The Cooper Family

Castella Bowleg

CONGRATULATIONS
ON BEING CHOSEN AS A TRAIL BLAZER
IN NURSING.
WE LOVE YOU. GOD BLESS YOU
CONTINUALLY.

FROM
Earle, Patrice, William and Raquel & Maria, Tori & Decarlo,
Brothers and Sisters and Church Family

Nursing Association • Page 29
Barbara Reckley

To a lady of Distinction,
who has gone beyond the call of duty and
proven her worth in the Health Care Arena.

Congratulations Mom!!
You deserve this & much more.
May God continue to bless you.

All our Love,
David, Bernadette & Debbie
Congratulations & Best Wishes to Rosaline Johnson from Your Fellow Sunday School Teachers at Holy Cross Anglican Church, N.P.
Congratulations to Trailblazer Nurse Pearl Bethel Cooper
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Nursing Association • Page 32
Congratulations to Trailblazer Nurse Pearl Bethel Cooper - 50 years plus

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Nursing Association • Page 33
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Nurse Pearl Cooper
For 52 Years Of Dedicated Service.

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Congratulations
Nurse Pearl Cooper
"To A Lady Deserving of Honor and Praise"

P-Peacemaker
E-Excellence in all she does
A-Advisor
R-Righteous
L-Loving Lady

"One who's caring, dedicated, and committed to helping the needy and less fortunate in many communities and in the nursing profession."

From: St. Vincent de Paul Society, St. Francis Conference
The Management & Staff Of Insurance Management Would Like To Thank Nurse Pearl Cooper For 52 Years Of Dedicated Service.

INSURANCE MANAGEMENT

Offices In:
New Providence • Grand Bahama • Abaco • Eleuthera • Exuma

Tel: 394-5555

Congratulations Nurse Pearl Cooper

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"One who's caring, dedicated, and committed to helping the needy and less fortunate in many communities and in the nursing profession."

From: St. Vincent de Paul Society, St. Francis Conference
We at Pine Oak feel privileged to be a part of “The Nurses Association” of the Commonwealth of the Bahamas special celebration of the “Trailblazers in Nursing” This is a landmark event, and we especially congratulate Nurse Pearl Cooper who has given 52 years of her life to those that needed it.

Congratulations to all of you especially Mrs. Pearl Cooper

Moneta Real Estate Investment Group, Ltd. A Real Estate Investment Trust Management & Staff pays Special Tribute to Nurse Pearl Cooper & All the other Nursing Trailblazers for jobs and services well done.

Congratulations!

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Congratulations to
Mrs. Pearl Cooper
A Trailblazer in Nursing Honouree
We also feel that you have paved the way for many others to follow
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Congratulations to
Trailblazer Nurse Pearl Bethel Cooper
50 plus years
In Loving Memory

Of

Alice Hill Jones
1903-1974

Dedicated Nurse, exceptional human being
Dr. Reva Bethel & The Family
Congratulations to
Deaconess Brendel Cox
For your dedication and devotion
Psalm 125:1

This brings many good wishes for every good thing that God can give and life can bring.

Love & Prayer
Aunt Miriam

May God continue to bless you in your efforts to promote the health of our Nation by Protecting, Promoting and Supporting Breastfeeding throughout the Commonwealth of the Bahamas.

from
The Reef Restaurant
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GWENDOLYN TURNER
51 YEARS OF NURSING

The Family of Gwendolyn Turner joins in expressing appreciation and love on this special occasion.

Congratulations, love and best wishes from
Max, Therese, Bernard, Karen, Cecile & Anita and the grandchildren
CONGRATULATIONS

To

BRENDEL LOUISE COX

on being a Trailblazer in Nursing

and contributing to the development of

the profession of Nursing in The Bahamas

from your children, Pauline, Christine, Richard and Cheryl;
sons-in-law, Pastor Jeffery Collie and Simon Beneby;
daughter-in-law, Eleanor Martins;
grandchildren, Codero, Rachel, Aaron and Jeffery

“Oh give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good”
Congratulations
to
Our "Trailblazer" in Christ
Deaconess Brendel Cox
from
The Pastor, Rev. Dr. Enoch Backford 11
and the entire church family of
Mt. Carey Union Baptist Church
"May the work you do continue to speak for you"

Congratulations
to
Deaconess Brendel Cox
"A Lady Worthy Of Praise"
from
Superintendent Sis. Olive Mackey and the Sunday School
Department of Mt. Carey Union Baptist Church
We love you Deaconess Cox
The Bahamas Dance Theatre salutes and extends best wishes to

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"Trailblazer"

Maude Antoinette Knowles Outten

Congratulations

for Outstanding and dedicated service in the health profession for over 40 years
Congratulations!

Maude Antoinette Knowles Outten

from

your four grandchildren

Andrew, Andriann, Alexandra & Michelle

With lots of love.

GWENDOLYN TURNER

51 YEARS OF NURSING

The Family of Gwendolyn Turner joins in expressing appreciation and love on this special occasion.

Congratulations, love and best wishes from Max, Therese, Bernard, Karen, Cecile & Anita and the grandchildren
We the Pastor, Officers & Members

of
Mt. Ararat Baptist Church Family

Honour and Congratulate a Definite Trailblazer

Our Pastor

Rev. Dr. Gloria D. Ferguson
A Recipient of

The Nurses Association of The Bahamas

"The Trailblazers in Nursing" Award 2005

I thank my God upon every remembrance of you......

For your fellowship in the gospel from the first day until now;

Phil. 1:3 & 5
We, the Children

Applaud with Love and Laudatory Hearts
Our Mother
In the Person of

Rev. Dr. Gloria D. Ferguson

As an Outstanding Honoree and Recipient
of
The Nurses Association of The Bahamas
“Trailblazers in Nursing” Award

“God is not unrighteous to forget your work and labour of love, which you have showed towards His name, in that you have ministered to the saints, and do minister.” Heb. 6:10

Evanette
Brent & Crystal, Christopher, Jasmine,
Baron & Joshua, Dwayne & Elizabeth
IN APPRECIATION

The Seton's Club extends appreciation to Gwendolyn Turner and Maude Albury (deceased) for their dedicated service and contributions in the field of nursing and health care.
Congratulations
to
Pastor Gloria Ferguson
Strength and Honour are her clothing and she shall rejoice in times like this.
Proverbs 31:25

From Alexious Rolle & family

Congratulations

Many daughters have done virtuously, but you, Rev. Ferguson exceeds them all, you are the woman that feareth the Lord, you shall be praised

Blessings, Blessings, Blessings
Love Sis. Edith Gilbert & family

To the World's Greatest Pastor
Confident and friend
Congratulations &
May the Hands of God
Continue to direct your path as you walk in obedience and faith

Love
The Moss Family

Congratulations

to
Pastor Gloria Ferguson

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SEATING OF SPECIAL GUESTS

INTRODUCTION OF MADAME & SIR COMPÈRE ___________Nurse Stephanie Poitier

MADAME COMPÈRE _________________________________ Maggie Turner-Leadership For Change

INVOCATION ________________________________________ Trailblazer Rev. Dr. Gloria Ferguson

NATIONAL ANTHEM __________________________________ Led by Nurses

WELCOME ___________________________________________ Mrs. Ampusam Symonette, President Nurses Association Commonwealth of The Bahamas

SELECTIO: “Go light your candle, Go light your world”

LUNCH IS SERVED

TELLING OUR STORY: NURSING 1903 TO NOW!

INTRODUCTION OF MINISTER OF HEALTH __ Mrs. Mary Johnson, Director of Nursing

BRIEF REMARKS & INTRODUCTION
OF DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER ____________ Dr. Marcus Bethell, Minister of Health

REMARKS & INTRODUCTION
OF THE RT. HON. PRIME MINISTER ____________ Hon. Cynthia Pratt, M.P.
Deputy Prime Minister, Commonwealth of The Bahamas

PRESENTATION OF AWARDS ___________________________ Willamae T. Hamilton-Stuart
Leadership for Change, Coordinator

THE NATIONAL TRAILBLAZER IN NURSING AWARD

KEYNOTE ADDRESS _________________________________ The Rt. Hon. Perry G. Christie, M.P.
Prime Minister
Commonwealth of The Bahamas

VOTE OF THANKS ___________________________________ Nurse Doreen Butler
Chairperson, Education and Research Committee Nurses Association, Commonwealth of The Bahamas
Menu

Nurses Delight

Green Salad with Assorted Dressings, Coleslaw, Potato Salad, Pasta Salad and Pickled Beet

Fried Chicken
Steam Grouper

Served with Peas n Rice, Broccoli and Carrots
Macaroni & Cheese
Freshly Baked Rolls & Butter
Cakes & Pies

Assorted Soft Drink/fruit Punch (1) per person
The Retired Nurses Guild

extends congratulations to the Honorees:

Carlotta Kass
Laban Brown
Catherine Wilson
Flora Hanna
Patricia Bethel
Pearline Cooper
Virginia Mortimer
Isabella Pratt
Gwendolyn Turner
Alice Gardiner
Rosaline Johnson

on the occasion of celebrating the service and contributions of these Trailblazers in Nursing
Congratulations & Best Wishes

Nurse Lucy A. Darville
from your children &
Grandchildren
especially Kendra and
Jan-Marie.
We love you!

Nurse Ruth Millar
with love,
Dona Maycock & Family

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Congratulations &
Best Wishes
to an awesome
grandmother

Nurse Ivy Pearson
from your Grandchildren

Congratulations &
Best Wishes
to a Phenomenal Nurse

Inez C. Smith
Trailblazer In Nursing
"You deserve it"
From: Elizabeth & Samuel Brown

Congratulations &
Best Wishes

Nurse Ivy Smith
you deserve every
honor and so much more.
from

your friend Thelma McWeeney
Congratulations
is extended to
Rev. Dr. Gloria D. Ferguson
from

Rev. Dr. Ivan J. Butler Jr.
Sr. Pastor, Kemp Road Ministries
President, Kingdom Building Pastors and People International (KBPI)
and the
Executive Officers and Members of
Kingdom Building Pastors and People International (KBPI)

You are truly deserving of the recognition and honour.
May God grant you His favour in all things.
To our Sister & Aunt
Mrs. Carmen V. Hepburn
We congratulate you for you have truly given much service to your profession!
We can say "Behold How Good" & Encouraging it is to know that you have been recognized by
The Nurses Association
Your Sister Shirley & The Entire Armbrister family

Congratulations to
Mrs. Carmen Hepburn
As you are honoured by Nurses Association & The Ministry of Health as a trailblazer in the nursing profession your service will always be remembered!
V.S. Hepburn & Associates
Architecture & Quantity Surveying
(Vanru, Archilene, Valencia & Vanderleeza)

To The World's Greatest Mom
Mrs. Carmen V. Hepburn
You have done well in your profession and is deserving of The appreciation shown by
The Nurses Association & The Ministry of Health
Your loving son
Steve O. Hepburn

J.A.G.
MOTORS COMPANY
Congratulates
Mrs. Carmen V. Hepburn
who is being honoured by the
Nurses Association & The Ministry Of Health as a trailblazer in the nursing profession
Your good work will follow you. May God bless you!
Congratulations

to the honouree

Mrs. Carmen V. Hepburn

on the occasion of the celebration
for the trailblazers of the
Nurses Association & The Ministry of Health

You have served well & deserve this honour!
Congratulations from

your husband-Mr. S. A. Hepburn
Your six children-Shaureen, Steve, Garren, Thalia, Vanu, Dion & Spouses
your 10 grand-children
To God be all the glory for great things you have done!
The Board of Directors of
Simplified Accounting Solutions
Congratulates
Emeralda Rutherford for
her pioneering efforts in the field of Midwifery Nursing
from Peter Rutherford, CPA.
CIA, Director & Shawn Smith, Director

Congratulations to
Mrs. Emeralda Rutherford
on the recognition of your many years of hard work and dedicated service as a trailblazer in the field of Nurse Midwifery
from Patrick, Monalisa, Jhasmyne & Kharis Rutherford

Congratulations to
Mrs. Emeralda Rutherford
Grandmother, fine Christian example, and trailblazer in Nursing.
We are very proud of you.

from Samuel and Dokira
Congratulations

Pam

on being chosen as a trailblazer in nursing.
Thank you for your years of dedicated service an
invaluable contribution to the health of our nation
and for being a community builder to all.

Love Mrs. Florika Davis and Family

We extend warm congratulations

to

Mrs. Esmeralda Rutherford

for

her pioneering efforts in the
field of Midwifery Nursing

from

Peter, Chavez, & Peter Jr. Rutherford
The Family of Aquinas College
Congratulates and thanks

Mrs. Pamrica Ferguson
for her dedication to the Nursing Profession.

Congratulations & Best Wishes
to

Mrs. Pamrica Ferguson
for your dedication and commitment to the Nursing Profession over the years. We are indeed proud of you and pray that God’s choicest blessings be yours.

Love, your sisters in law:
Dr. Rosa V. James, Mary V. Churtum,
Eloise Thompson, Sandra Poitier,
Veronica and Stephanie Ferguson
To some, nursing is just a job. However, to this beautiful person nursing seems to be the fabric of her being because she continues to exemplify what caring and Nurturing others mean with great passion.

This was evident during her employment in the nursing profession for over 30 plus years. Upon retirement, she entered the education profession continually using this humble practice to assist and educate the younger generation of this nation.

One can say, that she is truly dedicated and affirming when it comes to fostering the needs of others. Poised in class, seeking out the best in everyone, encouraging others to achieve all that they can and unselfishly imparting her knowledge, wisdom and guidance to others.

To this we say, “Congratulations to this ‘very’ special gem we call mother, grand-mother and mother-in-law”.

Love,

Asa I, Helene & Chandrice Ferguson
Gregory & Allison Ferguson
Leroy, Shannon & Leander Braynen
Marie & Al Symonette
Congratulations
to
Nurse
Brenda A. Simms
on being chosen as a trailblazer.
We recognize that nursing is a vocation rather than a
profession that continues for a lifetime. Your attitude of
service has been noticed by us all. We are proud of you.
The Family

Happy is the man of thy choice,
whom thou dost bring to dwell in thy
courts.
Psalm 65:4

Congratulations on your achievement
from your grandchildren
Ashley Jr., Ryan, Gabrielle,
Jonathan, Peter and Rianne
The Family

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CONGRATULATIONS TO LINCOLN R. DAVIS

We know him as a quiet man,
   But quick to laugh.
We know him as a TRAILBLAZER
   And now the country knows this too.
Still doing his part to help and comfort those in need.
   A trailblazer, a pioneer, a leader, a humanitarian
Dad, Granddad, we are proud to know and love you.
   A man who embodies values.
   A Man of Value.

Rudolph, Sandra,
Shana and Renardo Edgecombe
Congratulations
Nursing Trailblazer Inez Smith
You should know and remember these 7 Health Safeguards

- Change in bowel habits
- Sore that does not heal
- Unusual Bleeding Discharge
- Hardening or lump in the breast or elsewhere
- Indigestion of difficulty in swallowing
- Obvious change in wart or mole
- Agging cough which persists

from
The Cancer Society Board of Directors and
Members of our support group.

Congratulations
Nursing Trailblazer
Angela Johnson

from
Renn Carey
The President of The Bahamas
Conference of The Methodist Church
The Parish Community of St. Joseph’s Church Thanks and Congratulates

Pamrica Ferguson

<> A Woman of God <>
<> A Woman of Faith <>
<> A Woman of Vision <>
<> A Woman of Service <>
<> A Woman of Family <>
<> A Woman of Courage <>
<> A Woman of St. Joseph’s <>

We are proud of you, Pam,
and of all our parishioners of St. Joseph’s Parish who have served and continue to serve our County as nurses.
<> May the Lord continue to bless you <>
Congratulations
to the late
Nurse Angela Ruth Carnell Bain Johnson

From
The Family

Ethan
Rodney
Patrice
Mark
Frances
Ruth
Grand & Great Grand Children
I am privileged to write these few lines about a wonderful and dedicated nurse for over twenty-six years in the person of the late Hazel Wells-Darling.

I was introduced to Hazel in 1949 by the late T. L. Darling who was the head of the Physiotherapy Department of the Bahamas General Hospital, later renamed The Princess Margaret Hospital.

Hazel and I were married in 1952; her entire life was dedicated in caring for the sick and the underprivileged. In the 1940’s and 50’s, there were few doctors and nurses at the hospital. Trained nurses at that time were performing some of the duties that the doctors are doing today.

Many Bahamians take for granted and do not recognize and appreciate the sacrifices that nurses are making in giving health care to the public. A person must love and care for the sick in order to become a nurse. It takes special people to become nurses, school teachers and police officers.

In 1962, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II recognized Hazel, awarding her with the Certificate of Honour for services she rendered to the Bahamian people. I am pleased that the Bahamas Nurses Association remembers her as one of the trailblazers in nursing.

I extend my congratulations to all nurses throughout this Commonwealth on the 103rd year Anniversary. Praying that Almighty God will continue to grant all of you good health to serve our Nation.

Sir Clifford Darling
April 14th 2005

Trailblazer Hazel Wells Darling

"The Fatherhood of God, and The Brotherhood of Man"
A LADY WORTHY OF PRAISE

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And the entire membership of
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Are proud to participate in this event that gives HONOR to our sister, and friend as the Institutional Nursing Officer for Princess Margaret Hospital 2005 - 2008

Your contributions and dedicated service to the Health and Well-being of our country is evident throughout the archipelago:

WE COMMEND YOU AND ARE GRATEFUL TO GOD FOR BEING BLESSED WITH SUCH A CARING COMPASSIONATE AND FAITHFUL SISTER.

Proverbs 31:30
Honor is deceitful and beauty is vain; but a woman that feareth the Lord, shall be praised.

CONGRATULATIONS
We extend sincere congratulations to

Nurse Shirley Saunders

On this honor of being recognized as a trailblazer. Your sacrifice and labor of love is truly worthy of reward.

from

Emil, The Children and Grandchildren

M/V LEGACY

Captain Ernest Dean Jr.

Congratulates

Nurse Shirley Saunders

For your years of faithful service
Enjoy the reward!

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Congratulations on Your Accomplishment
As a Trailblazer in Nursing

From The Davis family, especially from your wife CAROLYN, daughter LINDA, and granddaughter KIMBERLEY.

You Have Made Us All Proud!
E&E Department and Grocery Store
Sandy Point, Abaco

Congratulations
Nurse Shirley Saunders

You have truly been a trailblazer and we are proud of you.

We pray God’s continual blessing upon you.

We congratulate
Nurse Shirley Saunders

on this honor of being recognized for leaving her mark.

May God bless you!

From: Sue & Joy Variety Store
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Congratulations to
Barbara M. Curtis
an exemplary nurse
and a faithful mother
and friend.
Drs. George &
Sandra Sherman &
Family

Dillet's Guest House
sends its warmest
congratulations
to all
those nurses honoured
as trailblazers in
Nursing.

Congratulations & Best
Wishes
to
Mrs. Inez Smith
a respected colleague and friend
on being recognized
as a Trailblazer in Nursing

from
Mary L. Johnson
Director of Nursing
Congratulations
to you
"Mummy,"
on being chosen as a trailblazer in Nursing.
May the good you have done speak for you.
May God continue to bless and keep you
from
Your children: Sandra, Donna, Tanya,
Grand: Karenia, Bethany, Javeal
and Baia

Aunt Esmie, we are proud of you!

It is with great pride and distinct pleasure, that we
congratulate a giant of a lady.
OUR AUNT ESMIE

We are fortunate to learn from you, what it means to ex-
emplify Christ's love, as a dedicated Professional Nurse, a
Mother, Sister, Aunt and Friend.

From:
Iris, Edgar, Erica and Edgarson Moxey
Congratulations
& Best Wishes
to
Mrs. Esmeralda Rutherford
a beloved sister on
being honoured as

a Trailblazer in Nursing

from your siblings:
Rev. David and Selina, Daphne, Aleta,
Dave, and Charles, Rev. Emmett and
Constance, Richard, Iris, Timothy, Helene,
Mark, Demetria and Misty, Mary and Ja-
son, Dr. John and Leona, Lisa, Christin,
Bridgette and Jahan, Robert and Elliott,
Stephen and Family

We are proud of you!
Heartfelt Congratulations & Best Wishes is extended by the family to Trailblazer Nurse Virginia Mortimer

Honoree 2005 for her outstanding and untiring contributions to the nursing profession

we salute you on your long and distinguished career.
May God's blessings be with you always.
The Pastor and Mrs. David S. Johnson, Associate Ministers, Officers and Members of Macedonia Baptist Church Bernard Road, Fox Hill

Congratulate Deaconess Esmeralda Rutherford and the other honourees on being recognized as Trailblazers in Nursing.

May God continue to bless you all!
Congratulations to Trailblazer Nurse Lydia King-Rosse from your grandchildren Larry 11, Lovant, Leighton, Xiomara and Christopher

Congratulations to Evelyn Prescod

We are honoured to participate in the celebration of 103 years of Nursing in The Bahamas by conveying our sincere congratulations and appreciation to those nurses selected as honorees on this occasion.
Congratulations to our Grandmother and my mother Nurse Shirley Boleyn Nixon for her faithful years of service to the Nursing profession.
Grammy we love you from Sadia and Brandon McKay.
Mommy I love you Kelly!

Shirley Boleyn Nixon
HERES TO A LADY SO WORTHY OF PRAISE...ALWAYS!

Congratulations to Shirley Boleyn Nixon for your long and faithful service to the profession of nursing and your commitment and service to the community of Little Farmers Cay Exuma.

FARMERS CAY YACHT CLUB AND MARINA
Congratulations
to

Nurse Nelia B. Dames

A trailblazer in Nursing for 40+ years
from: Your daughter Sandra, and grandsons Romon and Brad.

Blazing Trails is hard work— but the end results are worthwhile!

Congratulations to all nurses who contributed in any way to the efforts made! It is my hope that nurses continue to preserve these pathways to improve the health care of the people of our great Bahamaland!

Ismae Morris Baker
Congratulations Mom, on being recognized as a Pioneer and Trailblazer in the field of Nursing. Your 40 years of nursing service to your home, community and country have touched so many lives and of course, the annals of history will record that you were the:

* First Nurse assigned to the Heart Foundation Clinic;
* First Trauma Nurse Specialist at the Princess Margaret Hospital;
* First Emergency Flight Nurse for the Family Islands;
* First Nurse assigned to the Family Islands;
* First Nurse to open the Central Sterile Supplies Department

These are truly commendable achievements but what we are most proud of is your excellent example of unswerving love, dedication, compassion and selflessness you have provided to your home and your community during and even beyond your nursing years. Your words of hope and encouragement and the administration of your gentle and caring hands have, and continue to administer healing and relief to so many. By your presence, and by your sweet and gentle spirit, so many have been blessed, and we want you to know that we are so proud of you. Many of the lives touched by you will never know nor understand the sacrifices you made through the years, but we were there, and we know, and we are most grateful to you.

Again, we your children congratulate you Mom, on this fine celebratory occasion which reflects upon and commemorates your service to God, Man and Country.

Her children rise up and call her blessed... Proverbs 31

The Delevaux Family
Congratulations go out to
Trailblazer Beverley Erma Ford

In commemoration of your many achievements during your professional career in Nursing throughout the Commonwealth of The Bahamas.

From
Gurth, Mark, Jack, Cheryl, Gursha, and Christen

Congratulations
to
Trailblazer Beverley Erma Ford

on your nursing Achievements throughout the years.
God bless you
from
The Staff of the Cardio-Thoracic and Vascular Institute of the Bahamas
Congratulations
Mom!
Mrs. P. Deveaux
from
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Congratulations
Morley
It feels good to love a "Mom" as a trailblazer
Trailblazer Shirley Daniels from your children:
Mark, Lavier, Carlos & Dawn

Congratulations & Best Wishes
to
Trailblazer Lucinda Forbes
from:
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Medlink Home Health
Eastern Medical Clinic
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Malcolm Allotment East
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Congratulations
to
Mrs. Evelin M. Prescod
on her selection as one of the honourees in Nursing.
from:
Luis & Adela Osterloh
The Executive Management Committee of Sandilands Rehabilitation Centre, take great pleasure in joining hands with Trail Blazers in the field of Mental Health on this very auspicious occasion. It gives us great joy to extend congratulations to:

Mr. Lincoln Davis
Mr. Laban Brown
Mrs. Lucy Darville
Mrs. Inez Smith
Mr. Issac Rolle

Post Humously: Mr. Robert Smith
Mrs. Kelly
Mr. Rudolph Hanna

In the words of the great hymn writer, "Fear Him, ye Saints, and you will then Have nothing else to fear; Make you his service your delight, He'll make your wants His care."

Nahum Tate, 1952 - 1715
Nicholas Brady, 1639 - 1726
With fond and cherished memories of a loving husband, father, grandfather and outstanding nurse

Robert Golden Smith
1907-1975

From his wife: Irene Louise McQuay-Smith
Children: Gloria, Burton, James, Mizpah, Luther, Olive, Vivienne, Matthew, Maryanne, Edith, Carl, Leonard (Ormond and Anthony-deceased)

Staff and Patients of the Robert Smith Ward, Sandilands Hospital
Congratulations

to

Trailblazer Nurse Ophelia Munnings

for her contribution to the most noble profession of nursing.

Mom, you are indeed our Florence Nightingale and we commend you for your dedicated, distinctive and exceptional service to your family and the people of the Bahamas.

We love you mom and are proud of your most distinguished track record.

Your children: Ruiz, Kendal, Ingrid (Mary), Basil Jr. (Squeek), Janice, Carmen, Lynette and Shelly
Congratulations
Nurse Isabelle Johnson-Bratt

From
Your Loving Husband
Ancel
Congratulations
Nurse Isabelle Johnson-Pratt

From
Your Loving Family
David & Laura
Lauren, Devynne & Anthaya
Congratulations Nurse Johnson-Pratt

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Congratulations to Nurse Nixon from: Achara, DJ, and David Sweeting

Trailblazer
Nurse Barbara Curtis
A Nurse True to the Heart
First Nurse Perception Bahamas from Sandra & George Sherman

Nursing Association • Page 88
CONGRATULATIONS & BEST WISHES

TO

ESMERALDA RUTHERFORD

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CONGRATULATIONS & BEST WISHES

TO

YVONNE CHRISTOFILIS
Congratulations

to

Nurse Patricia Bethel

a Trailblazer who dedicated her life to the Nursing Profession

We are proud of your contribution and dedication to the Nursing Profession and service to the people of our great Nation.

We love you and pray for God's continued blessings on your life.

from your

family & friends
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Soldier Rd. at East St. 325-0830
Robinson Rd. & Minnie St. 325-2473
Prince Charles at Fox Hill 324-0485
Carmichael Rd. East 341-7720
of Faith Ave.
Congratulations To...

Nurse Barbara Curtis

for being selected as a 'Trailblazer in Nursing'

May God bless you as you continue to contribute to the health of our nation!

From your loving family at Faith Temple Ministries International
Congratulations & Best Wishes
to
Mrs. Barbara Curtis
a trailblazer in Nursing
for her long, distinguished and dedicated
service to the
development of the profession of Nursing
in The Bahamas
from the
Board of Directors and Staff of Abilities
Unlimited
Congratulations & Best Wishes
to
Rev. Dr. Gloria D. Ferguson
On Your Achievement
from
The Moderator, Officers & Members
Of
The New Way Progressive Baptist Association

Go On To Perfection with Christ Jesus
The Rector, Fr. Joseph Mycklewhite, Assistant Priest, Rev'd Angela Palacious, Wardens, Vestry and Congregation Of

ST. MARGARET’S ANGLICAN/ EPISCOPAL CHURCH
NEW PROVIDENCE

Congratulate
Miss Miriam Storr

May the Spirit of the Lord remain in your mind as you grow from strength to strength.

Congratulations to
Nurse Lesia Fountain

for your years of faithful service and invaluable contribution to Nursing in the Commonwealth of The Bahamas

May God continue to bless you.
from
Your children, grand children and great-grand-children

Nursing Association • Page 95
Congratulations to the Trailblazers in Nursing
(inset Honorees Names Below)

NAOMI ANNA CHRISTIE
MAUD LOUISE ALBURY
HAZEL WELLS DARLING
ETHEL COX COLLE
HELENA SEALY INGRAHAM
O'NEIL ROLLE
URSULA EVANGELINE SEALY
VIVENNE LONGLEY
LELURA MARTIN
GEORGE WASHINGTON FORBES
ALICE HILL JONES
VERA ISADORA KNOWLES
ROBERT GOLDEN SMITH
MONICA BUTLER MCKINNEY
ANGELA RUTH BAIN JOHNSON
DR. GLORIA DIANNA FERGUSON
SHIRLEY DANIELS
IVY PEARSON
CARMEN VERONICA REPBURNE
VERONICA POITIER
SHIRLEY SAUNDERS
INEZ E. SMITH
BEVERLY FORD
LELIA GIBBS FOUNTAIN
ESMERALDA RUTHERFORD
RUTH MILLAR
CARLOTTA KLAAS
VIOLA ELIZABETH SWEETING BUTLER

VIRGINIA MORTIMER
CATHERINE CONYERS WILSON
CATHERINE CRUSINGMOLM
LUCY A. DARVILLE
PEARLINE BETHELL COOPER
JULIA BUTLER ALBURY
BARBARA M. FARRINGTON CURTIS
LABAN BROWN
EDRIS TURNER
AMERICA G. FERGUSON
LINCOLN DAVIS
MAUD ANTHONETTE GUTTEN
EVELYN M. PRESCOD
CASTELLA BOWLEG
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GWENDOLYN N. TURNER
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ROSALINE KNOWLES JOHNSON
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Nursing Association • Page 86
Congratulations
to honouree
Nursing Trailblazer
Mrs. Ruth Millar

from
The family

Those who achieve success are
those who take a dream and make it come true.
In celebration of the life of our mother, Nurse Naomi Anna Christie and the contribution she made to Nursing.

Her children:
Perry, Cheryl, Gary, Gaylene & Kevin