



GHSON Alumni Newsletter

Summer 2024



UPDATES from the Graham Health System

Graham is doing well. Graham Health System continues to expand their market in Galesburg. Work is progressing on the new Galesburg GMG/Outpatient Center on Seminary Street (close to shopping center where super Walmart, Menards, Kohls, and other smaller shops are located). Anticipated opening is August 1, 2024.

Graham Health System is financially strong and continues to experience high volumes. All clinics are busy and the system continues to grow.

The Hospital Board has finished candidate interviews for the COO position (Chief Operating Officer). Ali Sours, a current vice president at Graham, has accepted the position of COO. This person will move up to the CEO position when the current President, Bob Senneff, retires next year.

News from the School

The SON received approval from the Illinois Board of Nursing to start a BSN (Bachelor of Science in Nursing) program. Graham Hospital Association (Charter date 1909), already has the ability to grant a degree. The first classes (nursing courses) will start in the fall of 2025. It will be a 2+2 curriculum plan where all the general education courses required are taken first before the nursing courses. A lot of current students have already completed most or all of the support general education classes. There will be students in both programs next fall.

The diploma program will continue as a separate program until it is feasible to discontinue it and just offer the BSN.

The next step would be getting accreditation from the ACEN (Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing). Our diploma program is currently accredited by the ACEN. The BSN is a new program, and is not technically just changing the current diploma program so a lot of work to be done.



Jordan Bassett



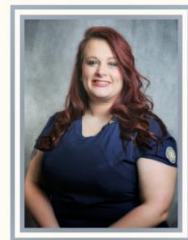
Erin Huggins



Maggie Norton-Rilea



Lacy Oaks

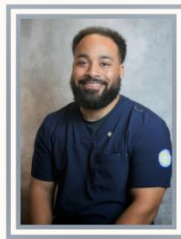


Jessica Ossler

GRAHAM HOSPITAL SCHOOL OF NURSING
CANTON, IL
CLASS OF 2024



Isabelle Raymer



Alex Shaw



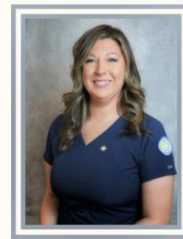
Abigail Shelby



Shay Stanton



Vumi Tusamba



Whitney Young

THROUGH THE FENCE PHOTOGRAPHY

Graduation for the Class of 2024 was held on Saturday, May 11, at 10:00 a.m. at Canton High School. This year, all scholarships were presented at Graduation so donors and families had the opportunity to be there. Previously, some were given at the Senior Recognition Banquet to avoid lengthening the graduation ceremony. The school has been so lucky to have so many scholarships available to students from organizations, past graduates or relatives, and other people that have a relationship or supported the School of Nursing.

Remodel projects

The SON is getting new heating and cooling system (HVAC) this summer. Both 3rd and 4th floors are closed until work is completed on each floor. Ceilings have been removed on both floors. The Alumni Office has been moved currently to the wing of the 3rd floor that houses the newer classrooms. I believe they used that area for some type of clinic before it was converted to offices and larger classrooms. Some of the staff are taking time off this summer during the construction, so please contact Sue Livingston regarding Alumni news or questions the first 2 weeks of July. Sue's number is 309-224-2280 or use email address (alumni@grahamhospital.org).

Graham Hospital is also removing some walls to make some of the classrooms larger and add more offices.

News and Happenings!

Since I retired from the school and just work in the hospital gift shop, I don't hear as much news.

We want to hear from you! Please send news, celebrations, continuing education, class reunions, etc. to alumni@grahamhospital.org or sderenzy@grahamhospital.org. Also, please notify us of address changes.

I did start a Facebook page for the Alumni Association in August with some help from Shelby Boster, Coordinator of Student Affairs, who has much more experience than me setting up pages. The group is called Graham SON Alumni on Facebook. I am still trying to post more pictures and notes.

This page does not replace the Alumni section of the school website. People have "liked" the page, but still no communication between graduates as we thought there could be.

Congratulations to Renee Hemp, Class of 2012, completed the BSN to DNP program at St. Francis! It is a six- year program and she was the first student to complete it. Renee also passed her Family Nurse Practitioner boards and will assume an OSF position this fall called the Advanced Practice Provider Primary Care Fellowship Program.

ALUMNI NEWS:

We still have sweatshirts left to sell. Of course, the price has increased as well as postage. The shirts are navy blue with white lettering.

Sizes currently run medium through 3X. Our company has been having difficulty getting smalls in all types of shirts so we are not listing small as an option at this time. Shirt price is \$26 for sizes medium through XL. Size XXL is \$27 and XXXL is \$29. It is difficult to determine exact shipping prices as it is done by zip code.

Shipping for most states would be \$10. Exceptions are coastal states like California, Florida, and Alaska.

If you live close to Canton, you are welcome to come in and try on our sample sizes.

Refer a student to GHSON

Alumni who refer a prospective student that is then admitted to GHSON will receive a **\$25 gift card**. Tell them to mention you when they request information about the school so we know who referred them.

Prospective students can request information
by phone (309) 647-4086
or through our website

www.grahamschoolofnursing.org

ALUMNI DUES

Dues for the Alumni Association are \$15 per year paid annually in February. The dues go toward scholarships, memorials and other projects for the school if funds are available. Please send your dues made payable to GHSON Alumni to:

**GHSON Alumni
Attn: Cindy Brown
210 W. Walnut
Canton, IL 61520**

ALUMNI NEWS:

The next Alumni meeting will be Thursday, September 5th.

The officers for 2024 - 2025 remain the same:

Sue Livingston, President

Regina Cox, Vice President

Cindy Brown, Treasurer

Brenda Gregory, Recording Secretary

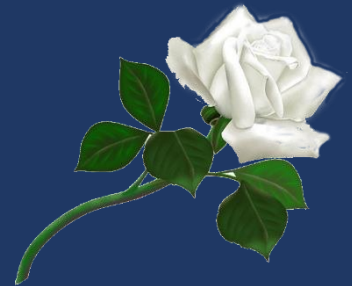
I have received quite a few historical items from previous graduates as well as their families. The majority of our historical items have been boxed and stored due to the construction project to avoid damage. Our main expense every year is the \$500 Alumni Scholarship awarded at graduation. I was honored to present the Alumni Scholarship to Saige Kenser, a junior student at Graduation.



IN SYMPATHY

March 13, 2024

Eleanor Pollitt
Class of 1976



Please let Sue Livingston or Sember DeRenzy (School Office) know of any of our graduates that have passed away.

Upcoming Dates to Note for 2024

**MARK YOUR
CALENDAR!**

September 5 – Alumni Meeting – 5 pm

November 7– Alumni Meeting – 5 pm

Alumni Association voted to change time to 5pm.

Meetings are being held in the SON 3rd floor living room. Call (309) 647-4086 for more info.

Transcript Requests....

We get many calls asking “What do I have to do to request a transcript?”. There are a few ways to go about requesting a transcript:

1. Print the transcript request form found on the school’s website. The form can be found under the Quick Links tab on the top bar menu or the Alumni tab at the bottom of the home page. Fill out the form and mail to us with the \$5.00 fee.
2. Email Shelby Boster (sboster@grahamhospital.org) with your request. Be sure to include the year you graduated and where you need the transcript sent. You may mail your \$5.00 or pay by phone with the hospital cashier (309-647-5240 ext. 2221).
3. Stop by the school office to fill out the request form and pay the fee. Transcripts typically are mailed out within 1 or 2 days of the request.

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