



GHSON Alumni Newsletter

Summer 2025



UPDATES from the Graham Health System

Graham is doing well. Graham Health System continues to expand their market in Galesburg. Graham is recruiting more health care providers for the Galesburg market in response to the increased business.

This July, Graham Health System broke ground in Galesburg for construction of ambulatory surgery center. It is projected to open in September of 2026. There have been lots of opportunities for growth there since Cottage Hospital closed.

Graham Hospital has applied to be designated as a Critical Access Hospital. The hospital has less patients and it would assist them for rural hospital funding. Clinics are very busy. Some small hospitals in Illinois stopped having OB departments, but Graham will not discontinue ours.

News from the School

The first BSN students are starting in August. They are hoping to have 8-10 students to start as for the next two years there will be both diploma and BSN students here. No freshmen were admitted to the diploma school this fall. Current diploma students will graduate in May of 2027 and so will the first class of the BSN students. The official school name of the BSN program will be Graham College of Nursing (GCON). The current school emblem has a wording change for BSN students. Graham Hospital School of Nursing will be changed to Graham College of Nursing. The Alumni Association remains Graham Hospital School of Nursing Alumni Association.

A retirement tea was held in May for Elaine Neel and Denise Vroman. Elaine taught NUR 210 in the fall for junior students and NUR 111 in the spring for freshmen. Denise taught freshmen both semesters. Elaine had most recently taught from 2003 to 2025 and Denise taught from 2012 till 2025 and was also a 2005 graduate. They both have good wishes for happy retirement.

We also received sad news that Rachel Tuhy has passed away this July in Florida where she lived close to her son and his family. Rachel started teaching at Graham in the fall of 1990 at the same time as Sue Barth and Sue Livingston. She taught NUR 210 in the fall and NUR 310 in the spring and retired in 2012. Her family is planning a celebration of life some time in August that will people will be able to view online.

GHSON
Graduating
Class of 2025



CONGRATULATIONS
GRAD

Senior Scholarship Recipients

Canton Women's Club Best All-Around Student – Danielle Sill
Director's Academic Award – Danielle Sill
Edna S. Geiger Award for Leadership – Amelia Becker
Elizabeth Talley Johnson Scholarship – Leslie Galloway
Fulton County Youth Council Esmarelda Thomson – Dominique Bowton
Geneva Bramble-Sara Carson Scholarship – Stephanie Walsh
Otto & Eveleta Meier Scholarship – Makenzie Ewalt
Otto & Eveleta Meier Scholarship – Danielle Sill

Philda McCombs Memorial Scholarship – Dominique Bowton
Student-of-the-Year Award – Danielle Sill
Tammy Spencer Memorial Scholarship – Megan Ebbert

Alumni Scholarship Recipient
Junior, Tasha Johnson, pictured here



News and Happenings!

We want to hear from you! Please send news, celebrations, continuing education, class reunions, etc. to alumni@grahamhospital.org or sderenzy@grahamhospital.org. The direct phone number for the school office is 309-647-4086. Also, **please** notify us of address or name changes as I am noticing that we are losing contact with more recent graduates because mail is not being forwarded as long as Postal Services advertises.

Our alumni Facebook page ([Graham SON Alumni](#)) has received quite a few likes, but it is not really used much for communication between graduates and I do need to add more recent pictures. I have been working on a historical project for the hospital and still trying to sort through boxes that had been stored last year during HVAC installation in the ceilings of all rooms in the school. I really need to apologize for not updating this page this fall. I need to post more pictures and notes. I have had some technical issues with posting pictures from my new phone which is irritating. I probably need to get some assistance from someone that is in the school more than I am now.

Just a reminder that this Facebook page does not replace the Alumni section of the school website.

ALUMNI NEWS:

The Alumni Association has voted to sell long sleeve tee shirts this year. These shirts will have a gold-colored emblem that is a very little more expensive, but worth it because the emblem will look so much more like our school pin. I have included pictures of what the navy (not as dark as it looks), white, and purple. We will have dark heather gray and royal blue. The colors other than white and navy will be a special order, but it only takes 1- 2 weeks for us to get from local company.

Small through size XL will be \$20

2X will be \$22

3X and 4X will be \$24



Navy



Purple



Royal



White



Dark Heather

It is difficult to determine exact shipping prices as the post office charges by zip code!

Shipping for most states, including Illinois, would be \$10 which includes our packaging expense besides shipping. Exceptions are coastal states like California, Florida, and Alaska would be \$12.

If you live close to Canton, you can pick them up and are welcome to come in and try on our sample sizes. Please let me or Sember know if you decide to come in. Sember's direct line is 309-647-4086 and my phone number is 309-224-2280.

Make checks payable to: GHSON Alumni Association

Send checks to: Graham Hospital School of Nursing Alumni
% Cindy Brown
210 W. Walnut
Canton, IL 61520

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

Excellence in Nursing Education Since 1909

The Officers for 2025:

Sue Livingston, President and author of newsletters (with much help from Sember!)

Regina Cox, Vice President

Cindy Brown, Treasurer

Brenda Gregory, Recording Secretary

IN SYMPATHY

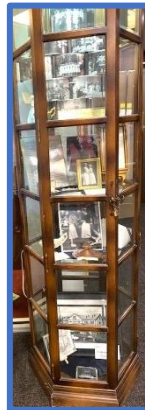
February 15, 2025
Jeannie Beadles
Class of 1989

March 31, 2025
Mary Kay Watson
Class of 1974

June 14, 2025
Phyllis Wilkinson
Class of 2011

June 18, 2025
Judy Simmons Juraco
Class of 1978

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



Historical display of items from school and hospital are on display in curio cabinets outside of the hospital gift shop in the main lobby. I was requested to help put together the items for display and I did have some uniforms from previous years on display for Canton's bicentennial celebration in June. There was so much interest in the displays that the hospital is going to purchase a large display case that will be placed in the lobby. The Marketing Director for the hospital and I have decided to leave the current curio displays up for another couple of months.

Upcoming Dates to Note for 2025-Spring 2026

MARK YOUR
CALENDAR!

September 4 – Alumni Meeting – 5 pm

November 6 – Alumni Meeting – 5 pm

April 2, 2026 – Alumni Meeting – 5 pm

June 4, 2026 – Alumni Meeting – 5 pm

Meetings are being held in the SON 3rd floor living room.

Call (309) 647-4086 or 309-224-2280 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.