

# The Bobcat Nurse

Summer 2012



*Celebrating 75 Years*  
1937-2012

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Thank You to All of Our Supporters




## *Greetings from the College of Nursing*

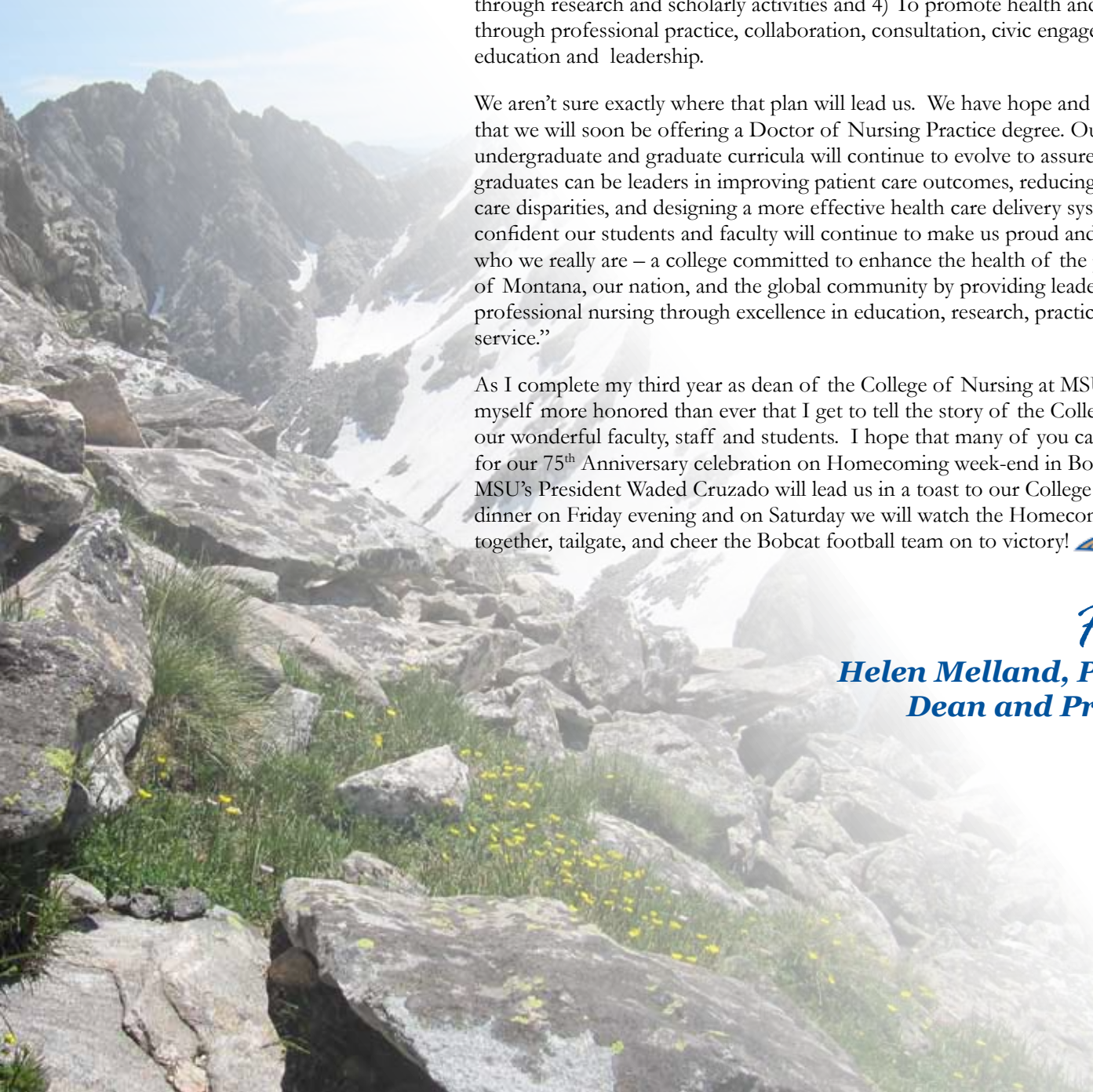
As I attended the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary receptions on our distant campuses during the past few months, I came to appreciate even more than I previously had the incredibly rich legacy of the MSU College of Nursing. Meeting and visiting with many of you, our alumni, clinical partners, and friends of the college was wonderful. The stories you shared about your time as an MSU nursing student or as a professional nurse were fascinating.

As we have celebrated our 75th anniversary this year, we have looked back at our many successes, but we have also looked ahead as we developed and approved a new strategic plan that will guide us into the future. The plan is structured around four goals: 1) To inspire baccalaureate and graduate students, within a diverse, challenging, and engaging learning environment, to become leaders in the practice of professional nursing; 2) To create an interactive environment in which faculty and students discover, learn, and integrate knowledge into nursing practice; 3) To serve as leaders in nursing by generating, translating, and disseminating knowledge through research and scholarly activities and 4) To promote health and wellness through professional practice, collaboration, consultation, civic engagement, education and leadership.

We aren't sure exactly where that plan will lead us. We have hope and optimism that we will soon be offering a Doctor of Nursing Practice degree. Our undergraduate and graduate curricula will continue to evolve to assure our graduates can be leaders in improving patient care outcomes, reducing health care disparities, and designing a more effective health care delivery system. I am confident our students and faculty will continue to make us proud and exemplify who we really are – a college committed to enhance the health of the people of Montana, our nation, and the global community by providing leadership for professional nursing through excellence in education, research, practice, and service.”

As I complete my third year as dean of the College of Nursing at MSU, I find myself more honored than ever that I get to tell the story of the College and our wonderful faculty, staff and students. I hope that many of you can join us for our 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration on Homecoming week-end in Bozeman. MSU's President Waded Cruzado will lead us in a toast to our College at our gala dinner on Friday evening and on Saturday we will watch the Homecoming parade together, tailgate, and cheer the Bobcat football team on to victory! 

*Helen*  
**Helen Melland, PhD, RN**  
**Dean and Professor**





## The College Celebrates 75 Years of Nursing Education

**SAVE THE DATE!**

**September 21st, 2012 at 6:00pm**

The 75th Anniversary Gala will be held Friday, September 21st (Homecoming Weekend) at the Hilton Garden Inn in Bozeman. The Saturday of Homecoming weekend will include a College float in the Homecoming parade, tailgating, and reserved seats at the football game for nursing alums.

Reserve your Gala tickets at [www.montana.edu/wnu/about/75th.htm](http://www.montana.edu/wnu/about/75th.htm) or call 1-800-457-1696 before Friday, September 7th, 2012. Space is limited. 



### Homecoming 2012 Events

#### Friday, September 21

- 1:30-3:00 p.m. Open house at Sherrick Hall  
6:00-9:00 p.m. 75th Anniversary Gala at the Hilton Garden Inn

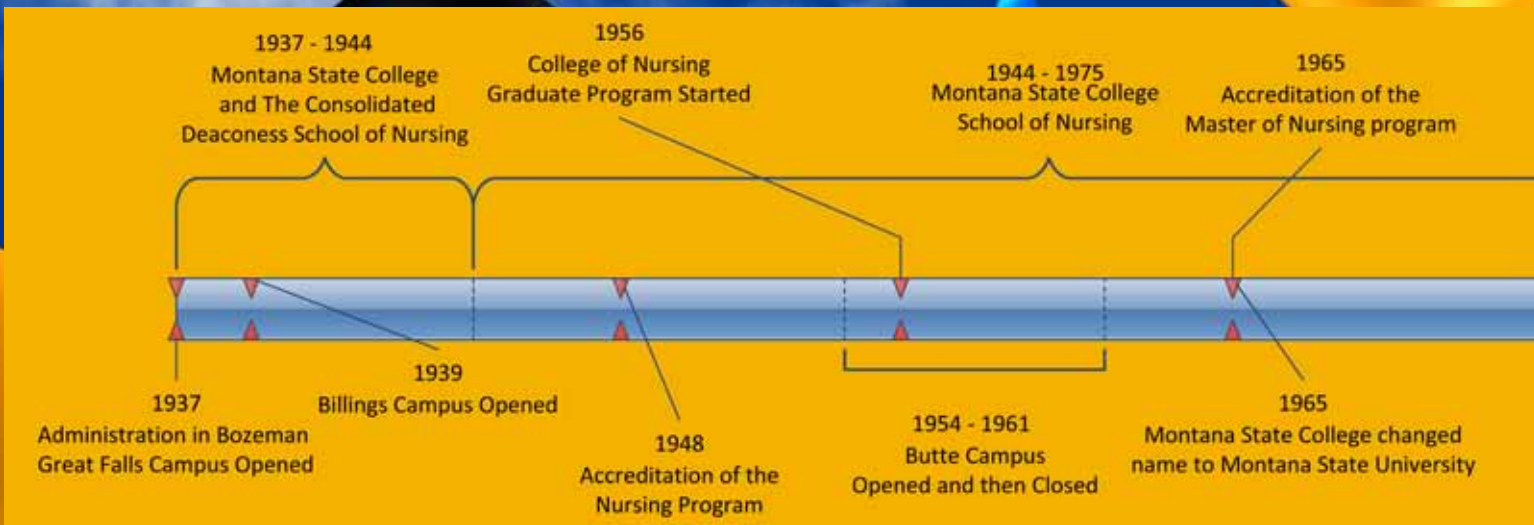
#### Saturday, September 22

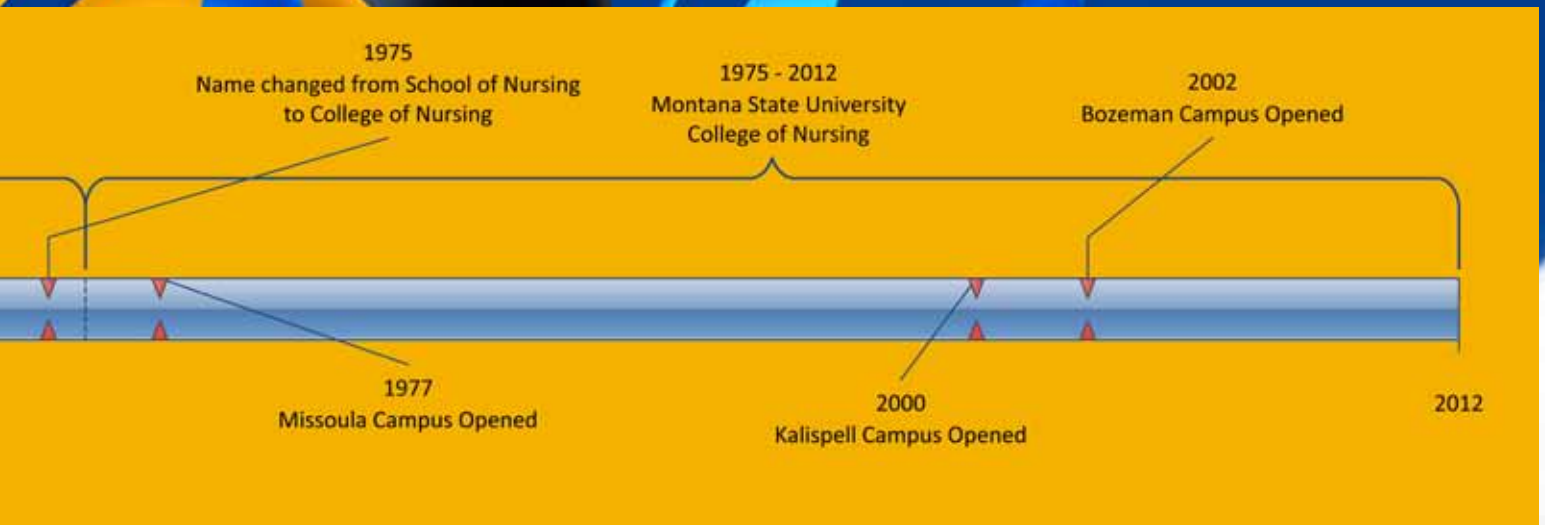
- 10:00 a.m. Watch the Homecoming Parade with other nursing alumni and friends. Meet at Willson School (404 W. Main St.).
- 11:30 a.m. MSU Alumni Foundation tailgate party and the Bobcat Prowl
- 2:07 p.m. Bobcat Football vs. Northern Colorado –  
Call 406-994-CATS (2287) to order tickets. Be sure to mention that you are with the College of Nursing.

For a complete list of other Homecoming events, go to

[www.alumni.montana.edu/events/homecoming/](http://www.alumni.montana.edu/events/homecoming/)

# Each Campus Celebrates the 75th Anniversary





## FOR THE LOVE OF DISCOVERY

### Montana Radon Study

It is an understatement to say that Assistant Professor Dr. Laura Larsson is committed to nursing. Larsson has been recognized by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) as a next generation national leader in academic nursing. Through the RWJF Nurse Faculty Scholar program (NFSP), Larsson was chosen as one of 12 nurse educators in the United State to participate in the NFSP 2010 cohort. As a participant in this program she also won a \$350,000 grant to find ways to reduce radon exposure among low-income people. Larsson has also received a Recognition Award from the Zeta Upsilon chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International

which is the honor society for nursing. The award recognized Larsson for her superior achievements in scholarship, outstanding leadership, high professional standards, creative work and commitment to the ideal and purpose of nursing.

“Laura is becoming a strong leader in academic nursing and research,” said Associate Dean Williams. “Her current research awards will help to solidify her research and leadership expertise and have made an important contribution to the research mission in the College of Nursing.”

#### Increase Radon Testing

Larsson’s current research focuses on radon reduction and has two main goals. She wants to increase home radon testing among rural, low-income people and ultimately she wants to influence housing policies on radon to reduce lung cancer rates from radon exposure in the home.

“Currently I’m delivering educational messages about radon in WIC clinics using digital signage. I’m also partnered with the Blackfeet Community College to develop a culturally appropriate radon risk communication message to be used on the reservation,” said Larsson. “The Community College has hired two students who will design and test a culturally relevant

message which will be displayed using digital signage.”


So far Larsson’s research has shown that many low-income people, especially renters, are unlikely to have had their residences tested for radon.

“Rented homes in particular are less likely to have been tested for radon and are less likely to have had action taken to reduce the levels of radon if found to be high. Rentals are also not subject to any regulations governing indoor radon testing,” said Larsson. “Many low-income families rent their homes and many low-income women spend a lot of time at home with their children. It is important that their indoor air quality is the best that it can be.”

Larsson’s grants are helping low-income families test their homes for radon by making testing kits affordable.

#### Ways to Reduce Exposure to Radon

She has also found that many people don’t know that there are numerous inexpensive ways to reduce their exposure to radon in the home if mitigation is not an option.

“Moving kids’ bedrooms and play areas out of the basement, upgrading your furnace filter, or purchasing a portable air cleaner are just a few ways people can reduce their radon exposure,” said Larsson. “I’m very passionate about helping community members protect their family’s health. My research is a good first step towards increasing health outcomes related to radon exposure.” 





## Web-Based Depression Intervention Designed to Reduce Postpartum Depression Among Military Mothers

Dr. Kathleen Schachman, Associate Professor, is developing a web-based intervention designed to reduce symptoms of postpartum depression among military mothers.

“About 15 percent of all new moms have postpartum depression. But recent research suggests that a much higher percent of military mothers experience postpartum depression,” said Schachman.

According to Schachman postpartum depression is the emotional and physical reactions occurring any time within the first year after the birth of a baby, characterized by feelings of sadness, despair, and hopelessness. She says the incidence may be high with military families because many military moms are young and live far from family and friends. Sometimes their husbands have been deployed.

“Moving around quickly from base to base makes it difficult to form friendships with other military wives or to become familiar with the resources on base that are available for new mothers,” she said.

To help these mothers, Schachman is developing a web-based intervention that she will make available to moms at military hospitals. When new moms come in for their well-baby/postpartum checkup, they’ll receive an access code to the Web site where they will participate in an interactive treatment.

The intervention will use a form of therapy, cognitive behavioral therapy, to help women control what Schachman calls “warped” thoughts.


“When women have postpartum depression, they often think, ‘there’s something wrong with me, or my baby,’” Schachman said. “This is a warped thought. I want to give these women tools to think in a more positive way.”

### Anonymity for Those Seeing Professional Help

The intervention can be used anywhere and at any time, and Schachman thinks that its accessibility and flexibility will help persuade mothers to try it out. The anonymity it provides might also reach women who might be embarrassed to seek professional help for their depression.

“I think this holds some promise,” said Schachman. She added that she is not trying to replace one-on-one counseling with this intervention, but is merely trying to complement the services that are currently available. “Having a baby is tough enough, but having one in the military makes it that much more difficult,” she added.

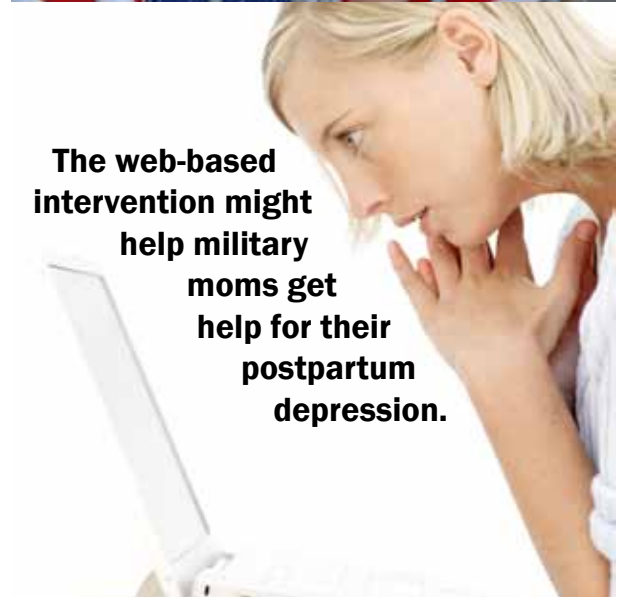
The intervention might fill an important niche. Schachman pointed to research that suggests that fewer than 1 in 5 women who have postpartum depression get treatment. In the military, Schachman thinks the percentage of women receiving treatment is even lower. This might be because brand-new moms are often isolated at home, and stigma about depression might prevent moms from seeking help. Many women are also afraid of taking medications when they are breastfeeding, and knowing what resources are available on a military base or in a new community is an added challenge, Schachman said.

Schachman hopes that educating people about how postpartum depression seems to be more prevalent in military communities might help more people seek treatment earlier. 

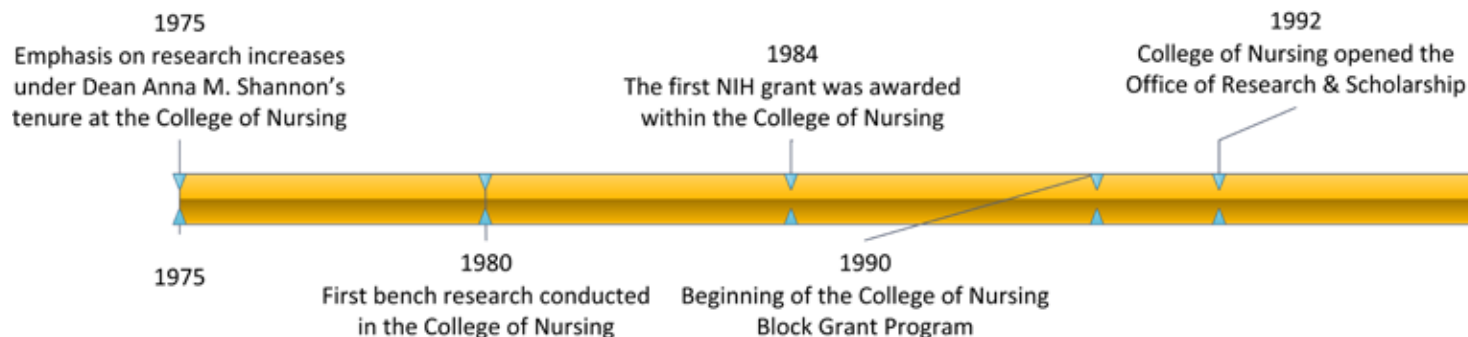
(article modified from an MSU News Service post from July 08, 2009 Anne Pettinger)



**The web-based intervention might help military moms get help for their postpartum depression.**



## Celebrating the Growth of Research

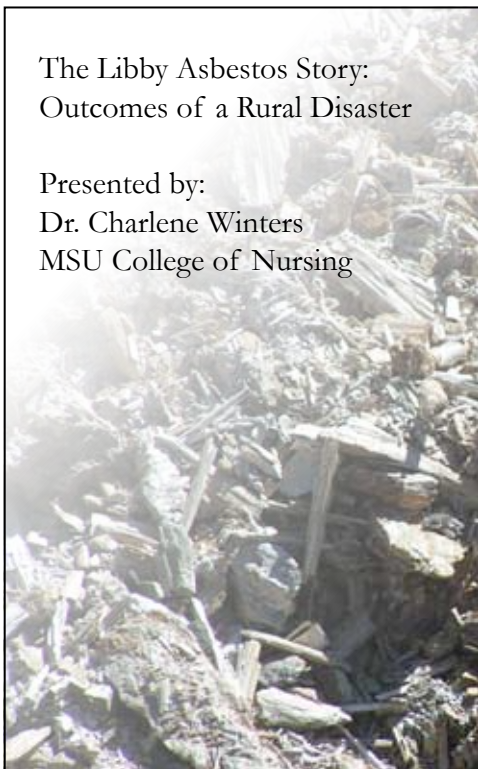


### FOR THE LOVE OF DISCOVERY

This phrase captures the spirit of the new College of Nursing Research Seminar series. In September of 2011 Donna A. Williams, Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Education developed and launched the inaugural seminar series. The seminars are intended to appeal to a broad audience of University students, staff, and faculty, are designed for the exchange new knowledge, and showcase some exciting research from the College of Nursing

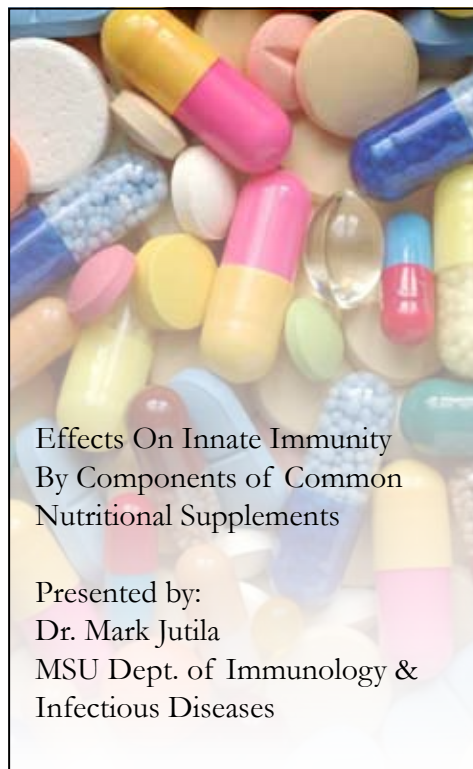
The Libby Asbestos Story:  
Outcomes of a Rural Disaster

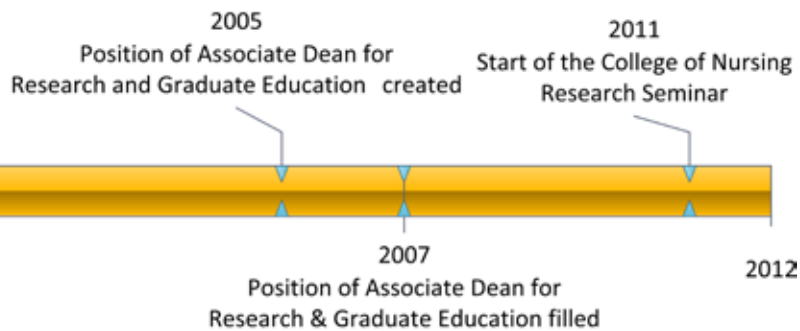
Presented by:  
Dr. Charlene Winters  
MSU College of Nursing



Effects On Innate Immunity  
By Components of Common  
Nutritional Supplements

Presented by:  
Dr. Mark Jutila  
MSU Dept. of Immunology &  
Infectious Diseases

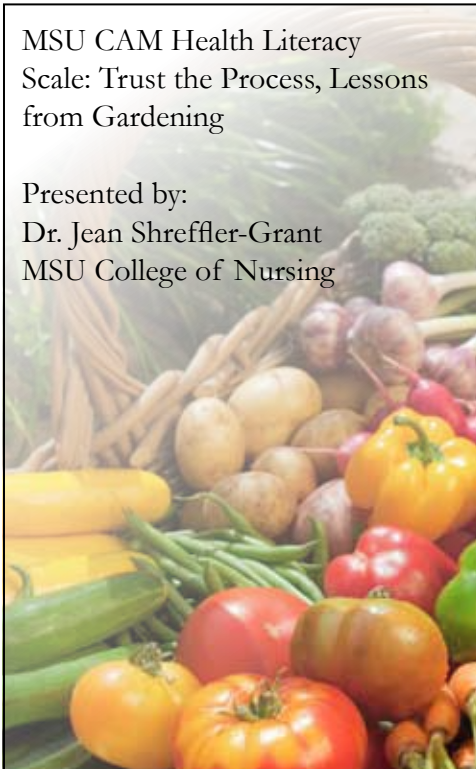




and other departments on campus. The inaugural series included five one-hour interactive talks given by prominent researchers from four different University departments and were broadcasted to our distance campuses (Billings, Great Falls, Kalispell, and Missoula) via interactive video. The seminars are held during the academic year and seminar announcements are made on MSU Today (<http://www.montana.edu/msutoday/>). Please join us in the fall of 2012 for the next round of exciting presentations. 🦉

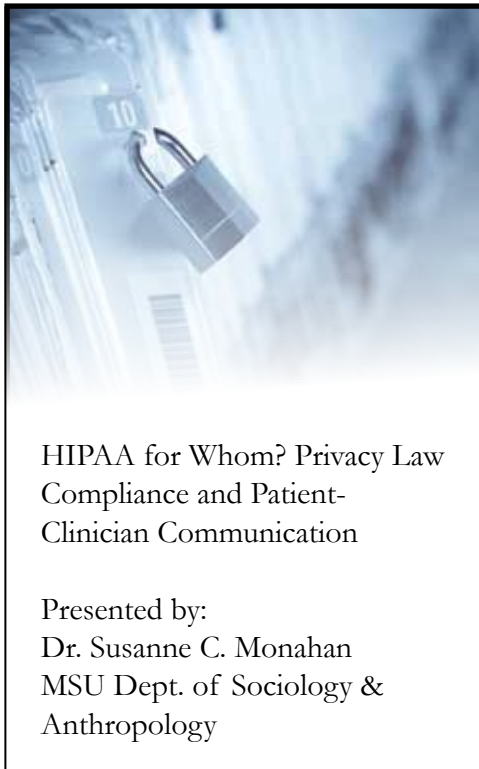
MSU CAM Health Literacy  
Scale: Trust the Process, Lessons  
from Gardening

Presented by:  
Dr. Jean Shreffler-Grant  
MSU College of Nursing



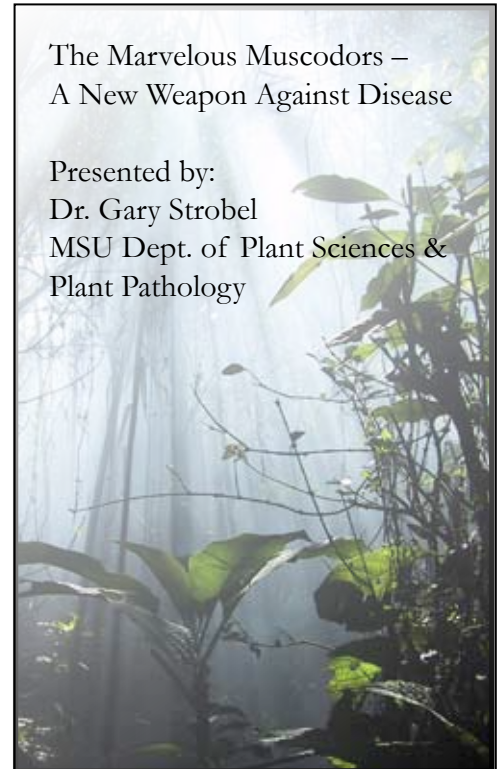
HIPAA for Whom? Privacy Law  
Compliance and Patient-  
Clinician Communication

Presented by:  
Dr. Susanne C. Monahan  
MSU Dept. of Sociology &  
Anthropology



The Marvelous Muscodors –  
A New Weapon Against Disease

Presented by:  
Dr. Gary Strobel  
MSU Dept. of Plant Sciences &  
Plant Pathology



## Nursing as a Career Path for Two Brothers

### Meet the Wurz Brothers

Stephen and Lucas Wurz don't consider themselves newsworthy students. They don't think of themselves as different from their classmates on the MSU College of Nursing campus in Great Falls.


And in many ways the brothers are very similar to their student counterparts. They are studious and hardworking. They graduated from the College of Technology in Great Falls with 4.0 grade point averages and met the rigorous standards for upper division placement in the MSU nursing program. Like many undergraduates, the Wurz brothers imagine themselves as nurse practitioners one day which suggests graduate school as a future option. As the only provider of graduate nursing education in Montana, the college is always delighted to hear of current students who are considering an advanced degree.

Like most MSU nursing students, Stephen and Lucas worry about their grades (especially Stephen, who admittedly worries about everything). And like many MSU nursing students, they hail from Montana and both understand the need for nurses in rural communities and around the globe.

### Non-Traditional Nursing Students

On the other hand, Stephen and Lucas are not at all traditional nursing students. First of all, they are siblings, which is not unheard of in the college, but extremely rare. It sounds like a Wurz sister and an aunt will join the MSU nursing program in the fall. That is most certainly a first in the college.

Secondly, Stephen and Lucas are men on a career path dominated by women. Of the 2.1 million registered nurses in the United States, only 5.4% are men and only 13% of new nursing students are men.

Finally, the Wurz brothers were born and raised in a Hutterite Colony 30 miles west of Great Falls near Cascade. While both Stephen and Lucas left their colony for various reasons, both are grateful for their upbringing. They obviously developed helpful caring attitudes, plus an incredible work ethic and, frankly, that alone makes their story newsworthy. 



**Stephen Wurz**



**Lucas Wurz**

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## Nursing Grad Springs Into Action



*Three days after the 2012 MSU Commencement Ceremony, Dean Helen Melland received a message:*


“...I had the pleasure of attending the morning graduation ceremony last Saturday to witness the graduation of my nephew. I was greatly impressed by the number of graduates and family members gathered to celebrate the academic achievements of the graduates!”

And then the story begins...

Like many MSU graduates, this new alum was returning to his parents' home in rural Montana following the ceremony in Brick Breeden Fieldhouse to celebrate his college graduation with friends and family. Little did he know, his nursing education would be called upon between the two events when he came upon the scene of a serious car accident. While there were plenty of people assisting at the scene (including a physician, an ambulance crew and fire personnel), the MSU College of Nursing recent grad was encouraged to continue to provide care and assumed command of the situation. He remained at the victim's side until the medevac helicopter arrived.

The graduate's uncle, who was also stopped at the scene, was able to observe his nephew from a distance and marvel at the competence he witnessed just hours after the shedding of caps and gowns in Bozeman.

“...I am so impressed by the quality of education my nephew received at MSU! He served with amazing confidence and decorum that could only come from quality training and inspiring instruction!”

*The College of Nursing is so proud of its graduates. We were so grateful to receive this inspiring story and felt compelled to share it.* 



Jean Setter

**Jean Setter worked as an Army nurse for three decades and alternated between stateside tours of duty and overseas assignments.**



**MSU President  
Waded Cruzado  
and Jean Setter**

## **Jean Setter - From College of Nursing Graduate to Colonel in the U.S. Army**

In the 75 years of the College of Nursing, many of our graduates have gone on to enjoy long, exciting, rewarding careers and have been an inspiration to many. Jean Setter is one of those alums. Having graduated from MSU in 1944, Jean was sworn into the U.S. Army in 1945 as a 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant just as WWII was coming to a close. Her career as an Army nurse spanned three decades and took her to many corners of the globe.

### **A Unique Assignment on a Hospital Train**

Soon after completing her basic training at Fort Lewis in Tacoma, WA, Jean was given a unique assignment on a hospital train in the San Francisco area. This hospital train transported soldiers and sailors returning from the Pacific war theatre to hospitals all across the U.S. The returning soldiers and sailors included prisoners of war who were being returned after four years of internment in Japan, and who were suffering from malnutrition, malaria and the effects of mistreatment. Soon after serving on the hospital train, Jean was assigned for two years to work in a hospital located on the 38<sup>th</sup> parallel or what came to be known as the demilitarized zone in Korea. This was in 1948, prior to the Korean conflict, but a time when tensions were increasing in that area. She cared for U.S. soldiers in a general hospital there mainly on psychiatric, medical, and orthopedic units. She was promoted to the rank of 1<sup>st</sup> Lieutenant while stationed in Korea.

### **Called Back to Active Duty**

Having served in the military for 4 years, Jean questioned if a long term military career was her goal so she was honorably discharged from the Army and joined the reserves. It was at that time that Anna Pearl Sherrick encouraged her to teach as a clinical instructor on the Great Falls campus. She did that for a brief period but was soon called back to active duty for service during the Korean conflict to provide service stateside at both Camp Roberts, CA and at Fort Sam Houston, San Antonio, TX where she was assigned to the Army Medical Field Service School. Her assignments at those bases were primarily serving as an instructor of medics and others who needed to learn basic nursing care.

The remainder of Jean's career seemed to alternate between stateside tours of duty and overseas assignments with a wider range of roles and responsibilities. As a launch to those many future


assignments, the Army sent her to a six month leadership training program at Fort Sam Houston in 1960; this served her well in later years as she advanced in rank and responsibility.

### **Met President Lyndon Johnson**

Jean's assignments as a staff nurse were at Fort Ord, CA, at Madigan General Army Hospital, Tacoma, WA and Fort Sam Houston, San Antonio, TX. She assumed the role of instructor or inservice provider at assignments at Fort Leonard Wood, MI; Tripler, Honolulu, HI; and Landstuhl Military Medical Center in Germany. She advanced into administrative roles with another assignment to Korea in 1968 where she was the Assistant Chief Nurse for the 121<sup>st</sup> Evacuation Hospital. Other administrative assignments were to Brook Army Medical Center at Fort Sam Houston, TX as a night supervisor; to Fort Riley, KS as Chief Nurse; and to Beaumont Army Medical Center in El Paso, TX as Assistant Director of Nurses. Jean recalls meeting former President Lyndon Johnson while serving as the night supervisor at Brooke Army Medical Center. She says he had a suite of rooms on the top floor of the hospital. As she entered his room, he stood for her – "as any southern gentleman would." While working at the 121<sup>st</sup> Evacuation Hospital in Korea in 1968 she recalls the release of prisoners from the USS Pueblo incident as well as the return of the remains of two soldiers.

Not all Jean's assignments were in the clinical setting. She served as a nurse recruiter for the Army in New England and upstate New York as well as in the Chicago area. Jean recalls her time in the Chicago area being during the Vietnam conflict when there was much unrest occurring such as the burning of draft cards. While in Chicago, she had the opportunity to work with Mildred Irene Clark who later became the chief of the Army Nurse Corps.

### **Retired at the Rank of Colonel**

Jean retired from the Army in 1976 at the rank of Colonel. Jean writes: "After retirement and returning to Montana, I interested myself in environmental issues and enjoyed traveling, gardening, and hiking and other outdoor activities. I also did volunteer work for the American Red Cross Blood Bank and for many years for the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks." She further states: "On looking back over my career, three things seem especially notable. In addition to the satisfaction of knowing I was serving my country in a useful capacity, there were the remarkable people I had the good fortune to meet: commanding officers, instructors, supervisors, and co-workers, some of whom became life-long friends. And there was the continuing opportunity to learn. I enjoyed all of my assignments, but there were always challenges to meet and problems to overcome, and every assignment, from first to last, was a learning experience. MSU (then MSC) gave me the foundation on which I could build a career, and I am pleased to be able to give back by contributing to the funding that will enable some of today's young men and women to achieve their goal in the nursing profession." 

**"On looking back over my career, three things seem especially notable. In addition to the satisfaction of knowing I was serving my country in a useful capacity, there were the remarkable people I had the good fortune to meet..."**

## Montana Area Health Education Center Focuses on Nursing

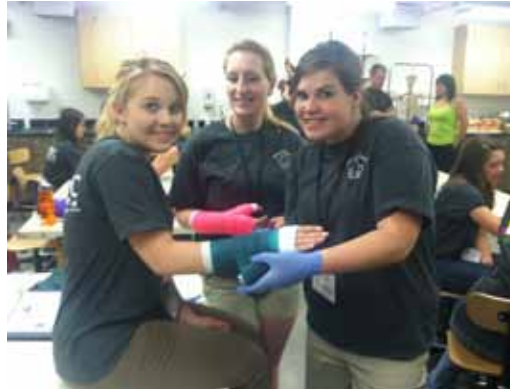
Geographically Montana is a large state - the fourth largest to be exact. However, in population, Montana ranks 44th. The geographical size of Montana, low population density, and the fact that ninety percent of Montana is designated frontier are just some of the unique challenges facing the state of Montana. The Montana Area Health Education Center (AHEC)/ Office of Rural Health (ORH) works to address issues facing rural healthcare delivery in Montana by connecting students to careers, professionals to communities, and communities to better health.

### Development of the Montana Healthcare Workforce Statewide Strategic Plan

The Montana AHEC is grant funded by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) through the Montana State University College of Nursing. A key initiative is the Montana Healthcare Workforce Advisory Committee, which has worked closely with nurses throughout the state in the development of the Montana Healthcare Workforce Statewide Strategic Plan. This plan identifies and addresses the healthcare workforce issues of Montana including pipeline, education, recruitment and retention.

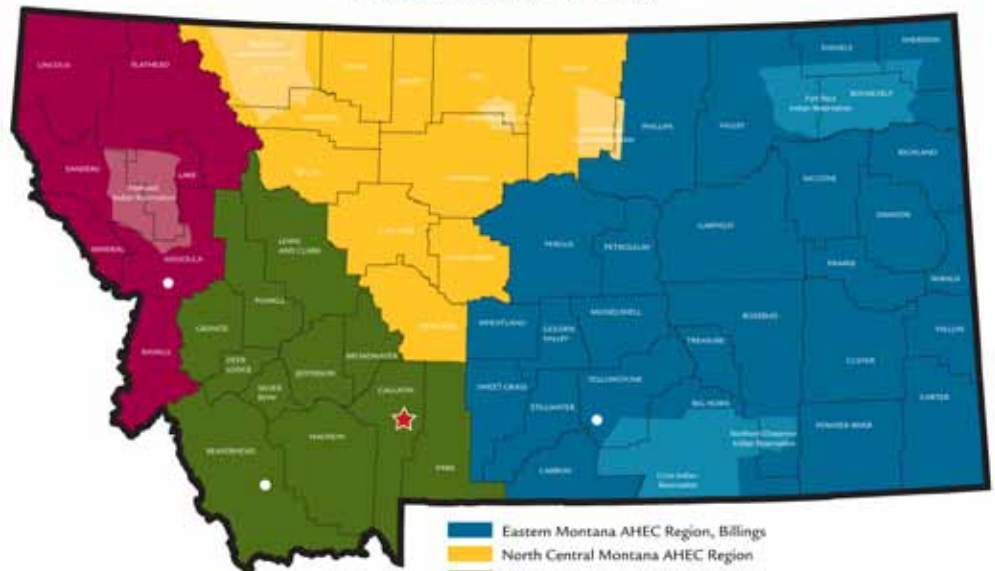
The Montana AHEC Program Office located on the Montana State University campus supports the Montana Center for the Advancement of Health through Nursing (CAHN) in their mission to address these issues by providing strategic planning and grant writing services.

(continued on next page)



### Montana AHEC Regions

For more information: (406) 994-6003



**AHEC (Area Health Education Center) Mission:**  
To enhance access to quality health care, particularly primary and preventive care, by improving the supply and distribution of health care professionals through community/academic educational partnerships

- Eastern Montana AHEC Region, Billings
- North Central Montana AHEC Region
- South Central Montana AHEC Region, Dillon
- Western Montana AHEC Region, Missoula
- ★ Montana AHEC Program Office at MSU in Bozeman
- Regional Offices





### **AHEC Supporting Student Interns**

The Montana AHEC Program Office also supports nursing student interns in an effort to enhance nurse education specific to rural healthcare delivery. These students are provided a unique opportunity to explore rural healthcare policy by focusing on leadership, nursing residency, and the restricting of nursing curriculum in an effort to reduce bureaucracy.

Current nursing student intern with AHEC, Larissa Donahue (expected class of 2014), has been inspired by her experience. “Seeing what Kris Juliar [Director, Montana AHEC], Cynthia Gustafson [Executive Director of the Montana Board of Nursing], and Casey Blumenthal [Vice President, MHA...An Association of Montana Health Care Providers] do has made me consider nurse policy as a career option,” said Donahue. “They are actually changing the field of healthcare in practice.” Donahue’s internship experience has also aligned her to seek publication of her work on nurse leadership.

Recognizing the importance of a healthy, productive, educated workforce and a strong healthcare infrastructure is critical to the health of a community. Our work with Critical Access Hospitals (CAHs) through the Community Health Services Development (CHSD) Program and the Frontier Community Health Integration Project focuses on community engagement, strategic planning, care coordination and workforce development. Over the past six years we have worked with 35 communities and are currently engaged in CHSD assessments with Livingston, Hamilton, Wolf Point, Scobey, Townsend, Big Sandy, Ronan, and Columbus communities.

The Montana AHEC aims to improve the supply and distribution of healthcare professionals, with an emphasis on primary care, through community/academic educational partnerships to increase access to quality health care. Rural communities experience difficulty in recruiting and retaining health professionals. Studies have shown that students from a rural community are more likely to return to a rural community, especially if they have clinical education in rural settings. To this end, AHEC coordinates a number of programs to place and support health professions students in rural Montana.

### **Office and Programs Across Montana**


There are four regional AHEC offices spanning the geographic area of Montana; Western located in Missoula, South Central in Dillon, North Central in Fairfield, and Eastern in Billings. The Montana AHEC regional offices administer MedStart and R.E.A.C.H. [Research and Explore Awesome Careers in Healthcare].

MedStart is an AHEC funded program designed to encourage junior and senior high school students to pursue their interest in a variety of healthcare careers. The aim of MedStart is to provide students who may not otherwise have the opportunity a chance to further explore healthcare careers, learn about college life, and realize it is possible to pursue higher education.

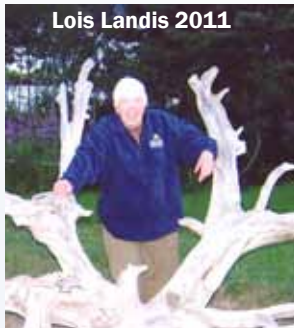
R.E.A.C.H. is a one-day program, taking place at the local healthcare facility that provides middle school and high school students the opportunity to explore the healthcare field through a variety of hands-on stations and activities. Professionals from the sponsoring healthcare facility lead the stations, volunteering their time and talent to mentor students and share their expertise. AHEC focuses on accepting students who come from disadvantaged backgrounds, low-income families, rural areas, minorities, or will be first in their family to attend college. This year there were 4 MedStart camps at 4 different locations; Montana State University-Bozeman, Montana State University-Billings, The University of Montana-Missoula, and Montana State University-Great Falls College of Technology.

Both the MedStart and R.E.A.C.H camps provide opportunities that may not exist without the support of the Montana AHEC and help to establish a consistent pipeline of future healthcare providers in rural Montana communities

The AHEC/ORH also publishes a monthly e-newsletter and has a searchable website for continuing education and training opportunities.

The goal of our programs is to support a well-trained and educated workforce, a strong infrastructure for rural health, and to support efforts related to new models of healthcare. We are proud to be a part of the Montana State University College of Nursing. 

Erin A. Bills, MPH  
Montana AHEC/ORH



Lois Landis 2011



Lois Landis with her Mother

## Lois Landis, Distinguished Donor to the College of Nursing

### A Gift to Honor


Lois Landis graduated from the College of Nursing and left Montana many years ago but her heart obviously remains with Montana State University and the Treasure State. Lois has recently made a deferred gift to the college to honor her mother (who wanted to be a nurse) and to honor her own career in nursing.

Lois grew up in the Cardwell/Whitehall area and then enrolled at Montana State where she completed four quarters in Bozeman (when the academic year was 12 months long), spent a spring quarter in Warm Springs (as a student), then returned to Butte for a two and half year stint at Butte Community Memorial Hospital.

### Once a Nurse Always a Nurse

After her final six months in Bozeman, Lois and several friends became a navy nurse. In fact the navy paid for her last year of school with the caveat that she spend two years in active duty. Although, she was not fond of OB nursing, Lois received a two year OB assignment in Portsmouth, Virginia. Her next 15 years were spent in Nevada and California working in OR, ER and on surgical floors (while serving six years in the Navy reserve).

Lois eventually landed back in Montana on the surgical floor at Billings Deaconess for nine years. Meanwhile, she took computer courses at Eastern Montana College. When she moved back to Los Angeles, Lois worked for L.A. County installing hospital information systems and also as a nurse for the sheriff's department until she retired.

In search of a small town with warm weather, Lois now calls Kingman, AZ her home. In her free time, Lois enjoys relaxing, travelling and volunteering with the Public Health Department and the Medical Reserve Corp. After all, once a nurse always a nurse! 

## Hot Off The Press... "A Legacy of Nursing Education"

An excerpt from the authors, Dr. Elizabeth Nichols and Dr. Clarann Weinert

Working on this 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration story of the College of Nursing from 1965 has been a privilege and a hefty undertaking. While we have certainly enjoyed the task presented to us, we must make clear that we are not historians. We are retired academics - an administrator and a nurse scientist. We have attempted to weave the information we gleaned over the past year into a coherent story telling of the development, growth, and contributions of the college over the past 47 years. Our story begins where the careful work of Dr. Sherrick ended<sup>1</sup>. We used a wide variety of sources: interviews with former faculty and alumni; boxes and drawers of materials tucked in the basement of Sherrick Hall; Montana State University archives, offices, and records; agencies such as the Montana Nurses' Association, the State Board of Nursing, American Nurses' Association, and Western Institute of Nursing; and many, many faculty members, staff, and friends. We are deeply grateful for all who responded to our calls and e-mail messages seeking clarification and additional information. We would especially like to express our gratitude to Patricia Oriet (Diploma, 1952, BSN, 1969) who seemed to have saved everything from eternity and if she did not have it, knew who did; Shirley Cudney (BSN, 1953), who read the completed manuscript to be sure we did not commit major grammatical faux pas; and Milly Gutkoski (BSN 1966, MN 1968) who has a memory like an elephant. Hopefully, we have faithfully interpreted and communicated the often fragmented information we gathered.

Please visit this link to purchase the book - [www.montana.edu/wwwnu/about/75th.htm](http://www.montana.edu/wwwnu/about/75th.htm)




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