



**PANHANDLE  
GREAT 25 NURSES**  
AWARDS BANQUET  
AND CELEBRATION

*October 17, 2016*



## 2016 PLANNING COMMITTEE

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TNA District 2 – President

### Co-Chair:

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Carolyn Witherspoon, BSN, RN

# W E L C O M E

For many years, the Texas Nurses Association District 2 has held an annual nurse recognition celebration. We have applauded the work, caring, and compassion of nurses across the Texas Panhandle and celebrated our Successes through the years. Tonight, we have begun a new tradition. Nursing organizations across the Texas Panhandle have come together to celebrate the Panhandle Great 25 Nurses! With the support and work of many individuals and businesses, we were able to make tonight's celebration a reality. You have nominated the best of the best, and tonight we are recognizing not only 25 great individuals, but also the Art and Science of Nursing as a profession. It is our mission to recognize Registered Nurses for their caring, compassionate service in the Texas Panhandle. All profits from donations and sponsorships is used to provide scholarships for RN students in our local nursing programs.

Thank you for being here. Thank you for celebrating with us tonight. And thank you for supporting the Panhandle Great 25 Nurses!

**Sharon Brewer,**  
MSN, RN President, TNA District 2

**Ruth Whitehead,**  
MSN, RN Vice-President, TNA District 2

**Dr. Valerie Kiper,**  
DNP, RN, MSN, NEABC, TONE

## OUR MISSION

*To recognize Registered Nurses for their caring,  
compassionate service in the Texas Panhandle.*

# PROGRAM

*Monday, Oct. 17*  
*Grand Ballroom, Civic Center, Amarillo, TX*

**5 – 6 p.m.**  
Networking Reception and Cash Bar

**6 – 6:30 p.m.**  
Dinner

### **Welcome/Recognition of Outstanding Nursing Students**

Sharon Brewer, MSN, RN, President, TNA District 2  
Dr. Jeff Watson, DNP, RN-BC, NE-BC, CRRN,  
President, Texas Nurses Association

### **Outstanding Nursing Students Presentation**

Michelle Adkins, Amarillo College  
Justin Isaacs, Texas Tech University Health Science Center  
Miguel Pacheco, West Texas A&M University

**6:30 – 7 p.m.**  
**Speaker:** Dr. Sarah Moody, DNP, RN, NEA-BC, Treasurer, Texas  
Nurses Association

**7 – 8 p.m.**  
**Presentation of Panhandle Great 25 Nurses Awards/Texas Nurses  
Association Hall of Fame**  
Mistress of Ceremonies: Ali Alison

**8 p.m.**  
**Closing Remarks**  
Dr. Valerie Kiper, DNP, RN, MSN, NEABC  
Texas Organization of Nurse Executives Secretary  
Panhandle Region Co-lead for Texas Team  
“Future of Nursing Action Coalition”

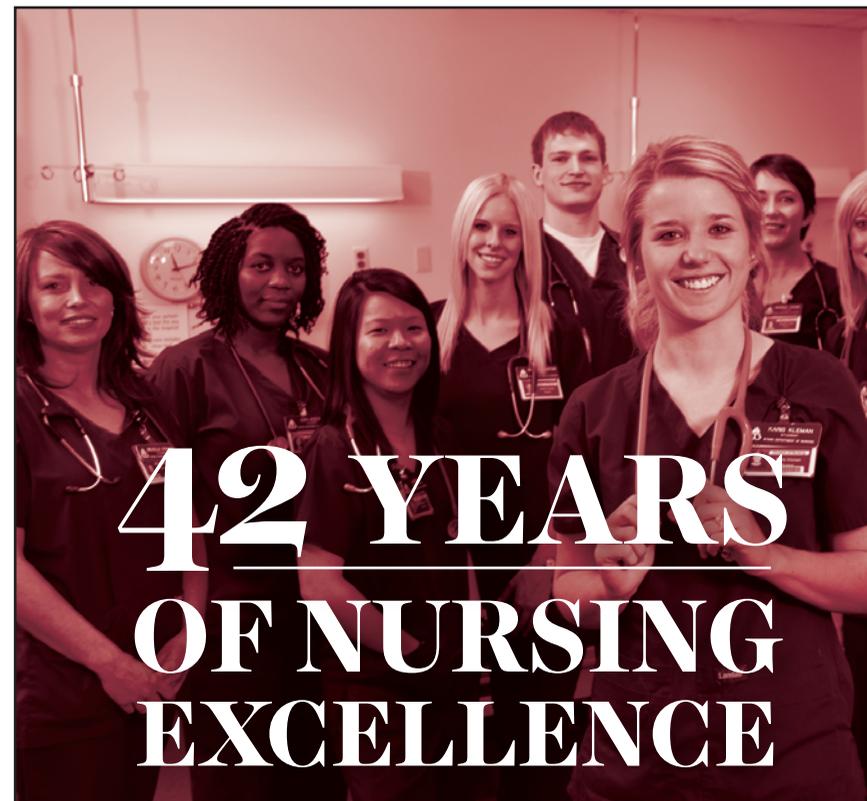


The commitment, teamwork and dedication of our nurses has helped BSA earn national recognition in clinical excellence three years in-a-row. It's this unwavering devotion that sets our nurses, and BSA, apart.

Their compassion and diligence to health and healing brings an invaluable service to our community. These amazing individuals that pull together as a team every day make possible the numerous accolades BSA has received, such as the Nation's Top 100 Teaching Hospitals by Truven Health Analytics, Outstanding Patient Experience, Pulmonary Care Excellence and Critical Care Excellence by Healthgrades to name just a few.

**We are deeply grateful to have such an engaged team as a part of the BSA family, and we're proud to honor them. Thank you, nurses, for making BSA a great place for patients and a great place to work.**

If you are interested in joining the BSA family, now is the time. BSA is currently offering sign-on bonuses to RNs who join the nursing team full-time. Call 806-212-5325 today.



**WTAMU College of Nursing and Health Sciences**

CONGRATULATES

**BETTY HENRY AND  
LAURA REYHER**

**on their selection as "Panhandle Great 25 Nurses"**

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Dallam-Hartley Counties Hospital District is excited to join the Panhandle Organization of Nurse Executives

Present in honoring the  
**25 Panhandle Great Nurses**

Because of our great nurses, we are able to achieve *healthcare with a personal touch*

**DHCHD**  
Dallam-Hartley Counties Hospital District

Dallam-Hartley Counties Hospital District  
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Coon Memorial Nursing Home  
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Dalhart Family Medicine Clinic  
High Country Community Rural Health Clinic  
Home Health & Hospice  
Physical Therapy & Sports Medicine  
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# PANHANDLE GREAT 25 NURSES

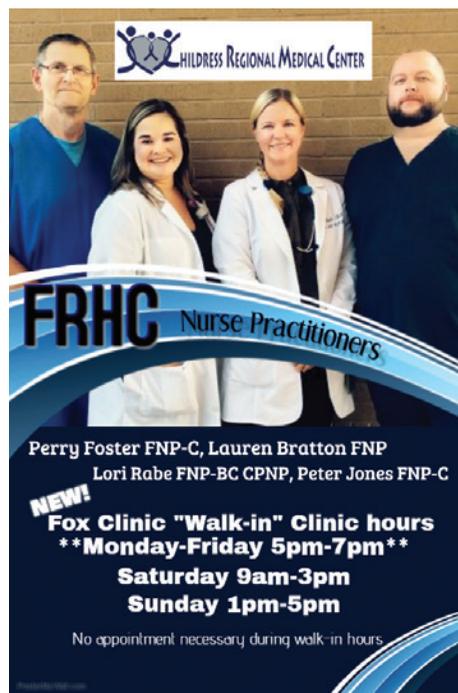


Texas Panhandle Coalition for Nursing

TPCN is a 501(c)3 not-for-profit coalition that was established in 2004. Its membership consists of representatives from nursing academia and area nursing employers. The mission of the organization is to ensure we have an adequate supply of nurses to meet the demands of the Texas Panhandle area.

If you are interested in becoming a member, please call:

Adonna Ballard, Secretary/Treasurer  
at (806) 354-1204 or email  
adonna.ballard@nwths.com.



Perry Foster FNP-C, Lauren Bratton FNP  
Lori Rabe FNP-BC CPNP, Peter Jones FNP-C

**NEW!**  
**Fox Clinic "Walk-in" Clinic hours**  
**\*\*Monday-Friday 5pm-7pm\*\***  
**Saturday 9am-3pm**  
**Sunday 1pm-5pm**

No appointment necessary during walk-in hours.

## PANHANDLE GREAT 25 NURSES



**Kristi Baca**  
*5 years in nursing*

As a nurse we give physically, emotionally, mentally and spiritually and never expect anything back so when asked, 'what this recognition means to me' is a humbling question. I am completely honored to have been nominated less chosen for this recognition.



**Leslie Collier**  
*22 years in nursing*

It is hard to describe how it feels to be recognized alongside the gold standards of our profession. I am honored to be among the nursing educators, clinicians, and leaders. It is a greater accomplishment for pediatric home healthcare to be acknowledged. These kids have been my passion in life.



**Danielle Contreras**  
*11 years in nursing*

This award is a true honor to me. It confirms my passion for my career as a nurse.



**Susan Cooper-Bailey**  
*17 years in nursing*

To be recognized by your peers for contributions made to a calling you love, well; there are not many words to express the astonishment and gratitude for such an honor. I work with so many incredible nurses that are very deserving of recognition. I sit on the shoulders of giants.



**Bettie Lou Crouch, RN**  
*42 years in nursing*

I never dreamt I would be recognized for doing my job. That my peers believe I embody nursing enough to be recognized is very humbling. I have no words to describe how honored I am.

## PANHANDLE GREAT 25 NURSES



**Danneva R. Eddleman, RNCMS**  
*21 years in nursing*

I am extremely honored and humbled to have been chosen among such an elite group of nurses. I am thankful for the opportunity to share my love for nursing and to be recognized for it. I will cherish this moment for a lifetime.



**Deloris Ellibee**  
*37 years in nursing*

Receiving this recognition is a great honor. I am very grateful and humbled, knowing I was nominated by my co-workers. I would accomplish nothing without their hard work and support. I feel extremely blessed with the many opportunities I have been given in my nursing career.



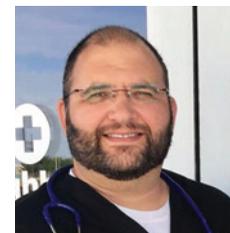
**Kelly Galloway, RN**  
*26 years in nursing*

I am honored to be one of the recipients tonight. I am also humbled to be a part of this outstanding group. I am also appreciative for the committee that has put on organized, supported and put on this event.



**Nancy Griego**  
*38 years in nursing*

This award means honor and humbleness. I'm humbled for the recognition and honored by those who have paved my career. A parent's inspiration, fellow nurses supporting and mentoring, family sacrificing, patients allowing my care, fellow military comrades fulfilling an American dream.



**Christopher Heath RN**  
*3 years in nursing*

There haven't been many times in life where compassion hasn't conquered. From treating soldiers in Iraq to being surrounded by coworkers at my twin brother's funeral, compassion conquered. To family and friends, I thank and love you.

## PANHANDLE GREAT 25 NURSES



**Betty Henry**  
*43 years in nursing*

This is the highest and most treasured honor that I have received in nursing. I appreciate those who were responsible for this award. I have always enjoyed nursing. I really enjoyed teaching students and watching them mature to excellent nurses. Thank you so much!



**Terrah Jamandron**  
*7 years in nursing*

I am so greatly honored and humbled. This recognition signifies that I am actively answering “the call”—a call to act as an instrument of healing—not by me but through me—to those in need. Nursing is an immense privilege and vocation. Blessed am I to be a nurse.



**Suzanna Jarrell**  
*25 years in nursing*

I am truly honored to receive this award. Nursing is a huge part of my life, and I have had the honor and the privilege of working with so many wonderful people throughout my nursing career. I would like to thank everyone who has helped me along the way.



**Meri Killingsworth, RN, BSN**  
*27 years in nursing*

This award means a great deal to me because it is based on the opinions of my coworkers and those I interact with daily. I am humbled that someone feels I deserve this award and I am honored to have been chosen as one of the Panhandle 25 Great Nurses.



**Dr. Valerie Kiper**  
*37 years in nursing*

I am proud to be a nurse and blessed to have had the many experiences and opportunities to grow professionally over my lengthy career as a nurse. A “great” nurse doesn’t become “great” on their own. I am so very fortunate to have had many mentors and colleagues that have influenced my career path.

## PANHANDLE GREAT 25 NURSES



**Lesley Pierce**  
*5 years in nursing*

Winning this award means that I am right where I need to be, doing exactly what God wants me to be doing with the people I’m supposed to be doing it with. Thank you to my family and friends for all of your support while I do what I love.



**Norma Pina Smith**  
*19 years in nursing*

Being nominated for this prestigious recognition is extremely humbling. In this career, we not only gain knowledge daily but we also gain an increase in basic human compassion and kindness. We are given a chance to impact lives daily and create positive and life changing encounters.



**Laura Reyher, RN, MSN**  
*38 years in nursing*

What an exciting time to be a nurse! We are at the forefront of healthcare with expertise, compassion, advocacy and skill. The opportunities are endless, and I’m so grateful to live and work among other nurses who are so trusted and respected. Thank you for this wonderful honor!



**Kim Riddlespurger**  
*14 years in nursing*

I am humbled and grateful for this award. Like most nurses, I chose this profession because I genuinely care about people. This honor represents a validating appreciation to so many wonderful mentors who vested in me and it is my enduring hope to pay it forward to the next generation.



**John B. Sappington**  
*15 years in nursing*

I am humbled to receive this award. I wish to thank my wife Glenda, Debbie Davenport and Charlene Seale for their examples. I believe that nursing is a calling. While a chosen few are fortunate to receive accolades, all professional nurses share this honor.

## PANHANDLE GREAT 25 NURSES



**Kate Schaefer, RN, CEN, NREMT**

*12 years in nursing*

I cannot express enough gratitude for this recognition for my work as a nurse. It is a great honor to be recognized by my peers. Being a nurse has never been a job to me – it is my life. I am thankful for the confirmation this award has given me.



**Bonnie Stull RN**

*13 years in nursing*

I am very grateful to be nominated for this award- especially knowing that I work every day with many nurses that equally deserve this honor. I am humbled to be recognized for doing a job that I love.



**Courtney Terrel**

*12 years in nursing*

What this recognition means to me....I am honored to say the least. Nursing consists of being kind, compassionate, understanding, loving, caring, selfless, empathetic, and non-judgmental. It's being a patient advocate. I'm humbled to be recognized for simply doing the job that I love. Thank you!



**Nora Wells CEN RN Medic**

*18 years in nursing*

Accepting this award is a privilege and a testament to the values instilled in me by my parents. I thank the Lord for his many blessings, and I place my attributes to his will. I appreciate everyone that nominated me and their confidence in my abilities. Thank you very much.



**Carolyn Veteto**

*31 years in nursing*

Thank you very much for the honor of being named as one of the Panhandle's great nurses! I believe that this award does not single out my individual contribution to the profession, but instead, acknowledges the impact that other great nurses have made in my career.



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# *Congratulations*

## To The Panhandle Great 25 Nurses

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It is clear that registered nurses contribute to the health and well being of every patient they serve. The art and science of nursing is a calling that embodies compassion, skill, knowledge and experience. Nurses are advocates and educators who devote their lives to taking care of others.

***Northwest is honored to recognize and support  
The Panhandle Great 25 Nurses.***

Find out all that Northwest has to offer and why Northwest is the Clear Choice for your nursing career.

**Learn more at [nwths.com](http://nwths.com)**

**Northwest**

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## Friend of Great 25 Nurses

Texas Nurses Association District 2  
Panhandle Organization of Nurse Executives

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financial donation:**

Carolyn Witherspoon  
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## Access photographs taken at the Panhandle Great 25 Nurses Event

Photos provided by Productions 918

Please go to the gallery link:

<https://productions918.smugmug.com/Panhandle-Great-25-Nurses/>

The password for the gallery is: nurses2016

Once the photos are uploaded to the gallery, enter the link into your web browser and type the password to unlock the gallery. Photos can be downloaded via the "download all" button in the top right-hand corner of the screen or single photos can be downloaded by clicking each photo individually and selecting the download icon.

Prints can be easily ordered through the gallery by selecting individual photos and clicking the blue "BUY" button in the bottom right-hand corner. These photos will be professionally printed and shipped to the buyer's address within several days.

*It will take 10 days from the day of the event to be uploaded to the gallery.*