

ROME MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

NEWS RELEASE

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Hospital announces Nurses of the Year

ROME -- In celebration of National Nurses' Week, Rome Memorial Hospital announced the winners of its "Nurse of the Year" awards.

Nurses honor their peers by selecting a "Nurse of the Year" for each clinical area. From among this group, a "Nurse of Excellence" is named. These dedicated professionals are honored for their caring attitude toward patients, superior clinical skills, and critical thinking ability.

The 2011 nursing award winners are:

- Kimberly Weiler R.N., Nursing Office, Nurse of Excellence and Leadership Nurse of the Year.
- Brandy Kirk, R.N., 2 East, Acute Care Nurse of the Year;
- Paula Vetrone, R.N., Intensive Care Unit, Critical Care Services Nurse of the Year;
- Kelly West, R.N., Emergency Department, Emergency Services Nurse of the Year;
- Mary Rife, R.N., Senior Behavioral Health Unit, Behavioral Services Nurse of the Year;
- Krystyna Piekieniak, R.N., Maternity, Maternal-Child Services Nurse of the Year;
- Rebecca Mix, R.N., Ambulatory Surgery, Peri-Operative Services Nurse of the Year;
- Rachel Gubbins, R.N., Performance Improvement, Non-Clinical Services Nurse of the Year;
- Rose Tubbs, L.P.N., Residential Health Care Facility Geriatric Services Nurse of the Year;
- Cora Anna, L.P.N., Emergency Department, Acute Care Licensed Practical Nurse of the Year; and
- Heather Wilcox, R.N., Maternity, Nightingale Nurse Award of the Year.

"Winning is a great honor because you are chosen by your peers," said Sandra Mahoney, R.N., coordinator of the selection program. "Choosing the nurse of excellence is an incredibly difficult task because in each case, you are looking at the best of the best of what is a phenomenal nursing staff."

Celebrated annually from May 6-12, National Nurses' Week focuses attention on the value of nursing and helps educate the public about the role nurses play in meeting their community's health care needs.

"During Nurses' Week, we take the opportunity to recognize our nurses for their excellence, dedication and commitment to the health and wellness of our patients," said Vice President/Chief Nursing Officer Durinda Durr, M.S., R.N. Each of the winning nurses was presented with a personalized keepsake, as well as a certificate of excellence, said Durr. In addition, all nurses at the hospital were invited to a dinner theater presentation developed by the Professional Excellence Council. Those unable to attend were honored with a personal gift.

"The nursing profession offers diverse opportunities across many healthcare specialties and settings," Durr said. "The nursing staff at Rome Memorial Hospital is a dedicated group, continually displaying a unified passion for the profession and a strong commitment to the people of our community."

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NURSES OF THE YEAR – Rome Memorial Hospital recognized nurses in each clinical area for their caring attitude toward patients, superior clinical skills and critical thinking ability. Front from left to right: Brandy Kirk, R.N., Acute Care Services Nurse of the Year; Rachel Gubbins, R.N., Non-Clinical Services Nurse of the Year; and Heather Wilcox, R.N., Nightingale Nurse of the Year. Back from left to right: Mary Rife, R.N., Behavioral Services Nurse of the Year; Krystina Piekieniak, R.N., Maternal/Child Care Services Nurse of the Year; Rebecca Mix, R.N., Peri-Operative Services Nurse of the Year; Paula Vetrone, R.N., Critical Care Services Nurse of the Year; Rose Tubbs, L.P.N., Geriatric Services Nurse of the Year; Kimberly Weiler, R.N. Nurse of Excellence and Leadership Nurse of the Year; and Kelly West, R.N. Emergency Services Nurse of the Year. Not Pictured: Cora Anna, L.P.N., Licensed Practical Nurse of the Year. In addition, the hospital honored all its nurses during National Nurses Week, May 6-12.