

PRESS RELEASE



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J.C. Blair Revives ICU Nurses Training Program

Huntingdon, PA (7/26/06) - On June 30, J.C. Blair graduated its first class of Intensive Care Unit (ICU) trained nurses since 1977. Newly recruited registered nurses Kelly Reese, Lainie Drenning and Rosa Smith completed the three week, 15 session training course certifying them as J.C. Blair Intensive Care Unit nurses.

J.C. Blair's Director of Critical Care Diane Baker coordinated the training program. Baker was a graduate of the last class offered by J.C. Blair in 1977. Saving time and money, the program trains newly hired ICU nurses on J.C. Blair equipment with J.C. Blair staff, physicians, respiratory staff, and ICU nurses. The comprehensive training equipped the registered nurses with the knowledge and skill required in the J.C. Blair Intensive Care Unit.

For thirty years, nurses hired to work in J.C. Blair's ICU traveled to regional facilities to complete the required intensive care nurses training. The nurses then received further training specific to J.C. Blair's equipment and protocols. Baker streamlined this process, offering the course on campus, on hospital equipment with hospital staff doing the training.

Baker expects to offer the course in the future as an on-line program to newly hired ICU nurses.

J.C. Blair Memorial Hospital is a 104-bed, non-profit community hospital in Huntingdon, Pennsylvania, with an active medical staff of nearly 60 physicians, over 400 employees and more than 50 active volunteers. Its key services include 24-hour

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emergency care, intensive care, medical/surgical care, behavioral health, pediatrics, maternity and gynecological care, as well as a full service medical laboratory, cardiopulmonary and radiology department, and wound healing center.

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Photo caption: (l-r) Pam VanNatta, R.N., Vice President of Patient Care, presents graduation certificates to Rosa Smith, R.N., Kelly Reese, R.N., and Lainie Drenning, R.N. Also pictured is Diane Baker, R.N., Director of Critical Care Services

