

DASnewsrelease

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For immediate release

2007 State Nurse of the Year Awards Ceremony

They have been called “unsung heroes” and “angels of mercy.” But someone said it best when describing nurses as “angels in comfortable shoes.”

Eleven of Connecticut’s 1,400 state nurses were on center stage on May 8 at the State Capitol as finalists for the 2007 State Nurse of the Year Awards Ceremony. They were selected based on nominations submitted by co-workers, supervisors, and patients.

Hosted by the Department of Administrative Services, the event is held annually to coincide with National Nurses Week which begins on May 6 and ends fittingly on May 12, the birthday of Florence Nightingale.

In her opening remarks, DAS Commissioner Gnazzo said, “The State of Connecticut Nurse of the Year Award is a unique way to recognize the dedicated service of nurses in state government. It raises the visibility of the value of the profession and highlights the distinctive types of nursing one can practice in government.”

Gnazzo explained that the awards format was changed this year to honor both direct care nurses and well as administrators/educators in the nursing field allowing for two Nurse of the Year Award winners. Barbara Dingfelder of Wallingford, from the Department of Public Health, was named Administrator Nurse of the Year. Maureen Worley of Clinton, from UConn’s John Dempsey Hospital, was named Direct Care Nurse of the Year.

“State of Connecticut nurses serve Connecticut residents in many different ways, but all with caring, passion and a strong commitment to the health of Connecticut residents,” said Governor M. Jodi Rell.