

# Lakeview Community Wellness Center Orthopaedic Connection

## The New Alma College R.N. Program

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### *Transforming patient information into patient understanding.*

This news is so big that I have to take a week off from my Orthopaedic article!!

The Michigan State Board of Nursing has granted initial approval to Alma College to offer a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree.

Alma College has never offered a B.S.N. degree in its long and illustrious history.

The new degree program has been in the planning stages for at least 2 years. It could not be publicized until now, because the State Board of Nursing had not yet given its approval. Judith McKenna, who holds a doctorate in Nursing Practice will head the program. Judith comes to Alma College from the University of Detroit Mercy where she was an assistant professor.

### **A Different Program**

Alma College nursing students will be integrated into the regular student body and through much of their education won't be attending isolated nursing classes.

Alma's students will take courses in English, Art, Sociology and Communications, Political Science and of course Chemistry, Biology and Math.

Alma College's contemporary nursing education which will grant a four year degree in nursing science prepares these young men and women to communicate, problem solve, think critically and become highly educated members of their profession and extremely valuable to future employers.

### **MidMichigan Medical Center-Gratiot**

There will be a close affiliation between Alma College and MidMichigan Medical Center-Gratiot where significant portions of their clinical education will take place.

Already, sections of Gratiot Medical Center are being transformed into state of the art nursing education laboratories. The medical and professional staff at MidMichigan Medical Center-Gratiot is very excited to have the prestigious new nursing program under our roof and for us to be able to provide our expertise in the students' education.

### **Health Science**

Dr. Jeff Abernathy points out that the addition of a four year B.S.N. degree program is an exciting addition to Alma College's already huge commitment to Health Science.

Alma already offers programs in

- Health Care Administration
- Integrative Physiology
- Public Health
- Athletic Training
- Biochemistry and Biology
- Pre-professional programs in medicine, dentistry, physical therapy, O.T., and Physician assistant

## **Personal Note**

As a member of the Department of Surgery and the attending medical staff at MidMichigan Medical Center-Gratiot I am extremely thrilled that my medical center and Alma College have developed this very close affiliation.

I was honored this Fall by my appointment to the Board of Trustees of Alma College. I look forward eagerly to making a professional contribution to the education of these outstanding women and men who will be coming to campus and the hospital and graduating as highly educated professional members of our society.

Hopefully many of the graduates will decide to stay in this area making Gratiot Medical Center and our community an even more outstanding place to live and work than it already is.

I am extremely happy this has happened for Alma College and Gratiot Medical Center.

Please spread the word about this great opportunity for prospective nursing students. Contact Alma College for more information or access the Alma College website [www.alma.edu](http://www.alma.edu) soon for further information. The first class of 34 students will enter in the Fall of 2014.

Please remember that anyone can make an appointment to see Dr. Haverbush at his office in Alma, at 315 Warwick Dr., across from Gratiot Medical Center. Call 989-463-6092 to make an appointment.

And don't forget every article I have written for Lakeview Area News is on my Website, [www.orthopodsurgeon.com](http://www.orthopodsurgeon.com). Check it out. I specialize in you.

Be well.

Dr. Haverbush