

AWARD SUMMARY

Betty Montgomery, RN, EMT-P

New York State Registered Professional Nurse of Excellence 2006

Mrs. Elizabeth (Betty) Montgomery has shown great dedication to expanding the knowledge and skills of our system's future Paramedics, as a dedicated mentor, both as an RN at Strong Memorial Hospital, and as an actively practicing Paramedic with Northeast Quadrant ALS Services. Mrs. Montgomery teaches and demonstrates excellence in providing quality patient care. Without mentors like Betty, we would be unable to produce the quality Paramedics and pre-hospital care providers that serve and treat our families, friends and communities day-in and day-out.

For the past several years, paramedic students at MCC have mentioned to us that Betty has been a "shining star" in providing them with a good educational experience during their clinical rotations. This year, in anticipation of this award, we polled the current class for nominations. Although about 5 nurses had multiple nominations, Betty had an overwhelming majority.

Outside of the ED, Betty is active as an EMS provider and instructor, planning of drills for West Webster FD, and overseeing QI/QA and education for NEQ.

Mrs. Elizabeth "Betty" Montgomery not only is a Registered Nurse in the Emergency Room at Strong Memorial Hospital, she also is committed to EMS in the field as a New York State Paramedic with Northeast Quadrant ALS Services and with West Webster Fire Department. She has dedicated her 32 year career to EMS and emergency medicine, and even today works full time at the SMH ED, while still working one day a week at the RGH ED and serving regular duty for two EMS services.

Over the years at the MCC paramedic program, we have consistently found throughout the clinical experience that Betty knows the needs of a paramedic student. The following actual quote from one of our current paramedic students best represents the feelings of our students:

"I have found throughout my clinical experience that Betty knew the needs of a paramedic student. She took us under her wing, gently guided us through the department process, put our needs first by giving us gentle nudges and strokes with reassurances that our hours of studies and vast knowledge wouldn't go by the wayside but be our life preservers when we were dropped into the trenches of a very high traffic, fast paced and too often code red emergency room. Betty has always been so welcoming and encouraging and never once made us feel that we were "just students" but instead makes us feel like a part of "The Team". Her continued efforts in cultivating a new breed of field medics should never go unnoticed because to us they have not."

Emergency Care Background:

- Registered Nurse for 32 years, Emergency Nurse for 16 years. (Currently at both Strong Memorial Hospital (FT) and RGH (PT) EDs)
- New York State Paramedic: BLS since 1979, ALS since 1989.