

# First Class of LPNs Graduates from Penn State Program

**S**ix Phoebe employees became newly licensed nurses this fall as a result of Phoebe's unique partnership with Penn State University. Two years ago, with Phoebe's encouragement and support, Penn State University created an LPN training program that fits the needs of our direct care workers.

The program focuses on evening and weekend classes, which allow the student to continue working while attending school. The first class of 25 students graduated in September. Their classes were held at Penn State's facility in Bethlehem, and clinical rotations were completed at St. Luke's Hospital in Fountain Hill and at Phoebe Home.

Included among Phoebe's new LPNs are five scholarship recipients whose studies were underwritten by a generous gift from Mrs. Mildred Quick Muller and several local foundations. "I am so glad to be a part of this," said Mrs. Muller at a recent luncheon held in her honor. The graduates have moved up the career ladder and assumed new roles and responsibilities at Phoebe Home and Phoebe Richland. In addition, Phoebe has hired five more graduates from Penn State's first LPN class.

With a waiting list already forming for its second class to commence in January, Phoebe has been invited by Penn State to develop a classroom site on the Phoebe Home campus. "We are excited about this possibility and plan to renovate our existing staff-training classroom in the Haas Building for that purpose," said Rob



Above, L-R: Theresa Guth, Michelle Andino, Mildred Quick Muller, Stacy Andrews, Seada Musa and Jennifer Parsons.

Below: Graduates gather in celebration with Mrs. Mildred Quick Muller and members of Phoebe's administration. Rob Khanuja reminded graduates that the learning process never ends, noting they still faced one of the most difficult lessons of all, making the transition from co-worker to supervisor. "You will determine the kind of leader you become... We have every reason to believe you will be the kind of nurses that inspire others," he said.



Khanuja, who as Director of Administrative Services worked closely with Penn State on the program. "The room will be equipped with the most up-to-date training materials and teaching equipment."

The new group of LPN students will attend classes and complete most of its clinical rotations on the

Phoebe Home campus. The classroom at Phoebe Home will introduce students to the many career opportunities in long-term care and potentially lead many of them to choose Phoebe as their employer.

Diane Lewis,  
Asst. Director of Continuing

Education at Penn State Lehigh Valley, views the partnership to be of great value and notes the "importance of education that can be seen throughout the Phoebe organization, which reinforces the benefit of lifelong learning." ■