

Local nursing agency launches nursing school

Health Horizons, a private duty nursing agency and provider of medical equipment since, recently announced the opening of its new school of health sciences, the Health Horizons Academy. The new vocational school, scheduled to commence its first trimester of classes on May 23, was specially founded to help prospective students meet the challenging prerequisites of their chosen field of study.

“Health Horizons decided to create this academy because we had so many nurse aides and PCAs (Personal Care Aides) working for us that wanted to pursue a career in nursing, but they didn’t know how or where to start,” said Kevin Large, founder and administrator of Health

Horizons. “A number of obstacles were holding them back...a lack of education, outdated course credits, trouble with math and science, fears of not remembering how to study, and money...to name a few. Health Horizons Academy gives these people another chance by focusing on their individual needs and helping them, every step of the way, to get admitted into the allied health care school of their choice.”

According to administrators, the new academy’s training will be primarily geared toward health care. Therefore, its programs will serve as a valuable “springboard” for anyone wishing to begin a career in nursing, dental hygiene, optometry, physical therapy, or any other

medically related field. Administrators note that students pursuing careers in non-medically related fields can benefit just as much by picking up required coursework in math, science, computers, or English.

To ensure that its students meet their goals, Health Horizons Academy will offer several unique educational approaches. School instructors are trained in bringing students up-to-speed on effective studying habits and test taking. Classes are then conducted in a tutoring style fashion, providing more one-on-one attention and training where needed. All course credits are fully transferable.

“By participating in Health Horizons Academy’s complete program, students can be done and ready to enter the health care school of their choice in just one

year,” according to a school press release.

“The academy is also mindful of today’s economic climate and America’s ever growing need for fairly priced, high quality education [and] in order to help Hampton Roads residents pursue their career dreams during this trying recession, Health Horizons Academy has set its tuition rates lower than most other educational institutions in the region, and it plans to keep it that way.”

Classes will initially be offered in anatomy and physiology, biology, chemistry, composition, computers, math, microbiology, psychology, and sociology – with more college level courses to follow as the school grows.

For information, visit www.vanursingschool.com.



Shaw’s Raheem Smith named 2011 CIAA Tournament MVP

Left to right: RocNation rapper J. Cole; Seth Freeman, senior brand manager, Coca-Cola North America; MVP award winner Raheem Smith; and Michael Bailey, 1st vice president, CIAA and athletic director of Virginia Union University. Photo credit: Cynthia Ndelo Photography, courtesy of Coca-Cola North America

Shaw University’s Raheem Smith receives the prestigious 2011 Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association (CIAA) Tournament MVP award, presented by Coke ZERO, Saturday night at the Time Warner Cable Arena in Charlotte. Smith was recognized for his superior performance and unparalleled leadership on the court during the men’s tournament. The point guard scored 28 points including two free throws with 2.3 seconds left in the game giving Shaw a 72-69 lead over Livingstone College. He is a native of Greenville, N.C., and a senior. Hip hop artist J. Cole joined Seth Freeman, senior brand manager for Coca-Cola North America to present the trophy.

Coca-Cola is a long standing corporate partner of the CIAA, with a relationship dating back 44 years. Coke ZERO was the official soft drink of the 2011 CIAA Tournament.

NBA launches advocacy competition

The National Bar Association today announced its 2011 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Drum Major for Justice Advocacy Competition. In its 11th year, the competition provides an opportunity for high school seniors to earn scholarships for college. MetLife is the Platinum sponsor of the program for the second consecutive year.

High school seniors from Maryland, North Carolina, South Carolina, West Virginia and Virginia

are invited to submit an essay for the 2011 competition. In no more than 1000 words, students should address the following issue: President Barack Obama challenged states to identify high schools with graduation rates below 60 and implement programs to increase the rates. If Dr. King were alive today, what new solution(s) and new program(s) should he recommend that your state implement and the Obama Administration fund? Specifically explain why the proposed new solutions and programs should be adopted.

Students should register for the competition at www.nationalbar.org/mlkdrimcompetition. The first place winner of the regional competition will receive a \$1,000 scholarship and a three day, two night trip to Baltimore, MD for the national competition. Airfare and hotel costs will be covered for the student and one adult chaperone. National competition winners will receive more than \$5,000 in scholarships. All national prizes are one time scholarships.

Sponsored by the National Bar Association and supported by the National Bar Institute, the competition is an annual advocacy program designed to motivate students of color to excel in education. The contest encourages high school seniors to express their views on a pre-selected topic, and judges the students on their ability to communicate orally and in writing. It also provides young people with experience in public speaking.

“The NBA is so pleased to continue its tradition of inspiring young Americans towards careers in the law and recognizing tomorrow’s leaders,” said J. Robert Carr, executive director of the National Bar Association. “We also look forward to partnering with MetLife again this year to help families understand and plan for the rising costs of college.”

Laurel Daring, assistant vice president of Marketing at MetLife added, “MetLife recognizes the importance of education in helping families build financial freedom. That’s why we’re proud to once again serve as the Platinum Sponsor of this competition, which touches the lives of hundreds of talented young people.”

To be eligible, students must have applied to a college or university for the 2011 – 2012 school year. The winners of the regional competitions will advance to the national competition to be held Aug. 2 in Baltimore, MD.