PRESS RELEASE

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Arkansas Nurses Association Centennial Anniversary 2012

Founded in 1912, the Arkansas Nurses Association (ARNA) will celebrate its 100th anniversary all during the year of 2012. And to honor this magnificent milestone, we will build our anniversary around "The Year of the Nurse" – commemorating our past, present and future. In the past 100 years, Arkansas nurses have devoted their talents, skills and energies to help build a healthy Arkansas population. Through service, education and unwavering ethics, ARNA has continued to grow in members and establish itself as the professional organization for registered nurses in this state. The voice for Arkansas nurses through ARNA has been a strong, proud one, representing the very best in ethics and leadership.

The 2012 Anniversary Year will begin with a Press Conference on January 24, 2012, to be held at 9:00 a.m. at the Capitol Building. The purpose of the press conference will be to announce The Arkansas Nurses Association's celebration intentions and activities for the year. The press conference will be conducted by the Chief Executive Officer for ARNA, Joanne DeJanovich.

The press conference will be followed with our Governor of the great state of Arkansas, Mike Beebe, signing the Proclamation, also at the Capitol Building in the Governor's conference room today, January, 2012 at 9:30 a.m.

Since 1912, ARNA has transformed the profession of nursing into a vital member of the health care team. Throughout the years, outstanding nurse leaders have come forward to promote and advance nursing education, research, and clinical practice. The yearlong activities will focus on celebrating every nurse; past, present, and future. To highlight their contributions, a personal message will be sent to nurses across the state to acknowledge their efforts and offer our heartfelt thanks.

Continuing the celebration, ARNA's 13 statewide districts will join together to form regional teams that will plan celebratory events for nurses across the state. Events will be held almost every month. In October, during ARNA's major educational convention, special tributes are planned. A grand gala celebration in early December at the Peabody Hotel will complete our celebration. We will conduct media campaigns within the state; have pertinent articles in magazines and publications, TV spots, etc. Please visit www.arna.org where our list of activities and information can be found, or for more information contact ARNA at arna@arna.org or call 501-244-2363.