CONTRACT RATIFIED!

Congratulations! Our new contract was ratified Monday, Nov. 13, 2017 by a unanimous vote with a majority of our bargaining unit members turning in their ballots. The new contract will take effect Jan. 1, 2018. In the meantime we will be finalizing a version for printing. Once the print version is available, we will hand those out. In the meantime, the redline version will be on our website, for nurses to review.

One very important aspect of your contract to be aware of is that the hospital will be reevaluating the years of experience each nurse has and adjusting where they fall on the pay scale. The scale is now composed of steps each year through 27 years of experience. We are recommending that each nurse request a formal review of their placement on the scale. We created a form to make it easy for ONA to track who had requested review. It is available on the ONA/STA webpage.

Please make sure that you fax a copy to ONA, Attn: Ateusa at 503-293-0013.

Continue to stay informed of bargaining unit activities and events through the year by signing up for text message alerts!

Text ONASTA to 43506
**Flu Shot and Masking Policy Update**

Members of our ONA negotiation team met with the Hospital Infection Control and Flu Policy group to discuss the masking policy. While we were not able to completely remove the requirement for masking we were able to make great progress towards a more common sense masking policy.

The new policy will be available as soon as the language is finalized, but the main change is that unvaccinated health care workers will only be required to mask when they are within six feet of a patient. There is also an increased focus on reminding all hospital personnel of the importance of masking in the presence of symptoms, regardless of vaccination status.

We would also like to remind nurses that the hospital takes any reports of harassment or bullying related to mask wearing very seriously. Nurses or other providers who are treated poorly due to wearing a mask are encouraged to report all instances to Human Resources, so that they can be dealt with appropriately. Bullying and harassment is never OK.

**Staffing Committee Elections Coming Up**

The Staffing Committee will be having elections in February of 2018. All direct care provider positions on the committee will need to be filled. Nurses interested in serving on this important committee are encouraged to complete a consent to serve.

Please speak to a current committee member or Ateusa Salemi, if you have any questions.

**Winner! Winner!**

Congratulations to **Nicol Byram, Jocelene Thomas, and Karee Etter** who were randomly drawn from all of those who completed our bargaining survey and have won a gift card! Those will be delivered by the negotiation team. A big thank you to all nurses who took the survey.
Vote YES on Measure 101 to Protect Health Care Access

Oregon voters will face a decision on whether or not to protect health care for more than 350,000 children, adults with disabilities, seniors, and low-income families in a special election Jan. 23, 2018.

Measure 101 asks voters to uphold the bipartisan Oregon Healthcare Protections Bill which the legislature passed in the 2017 legislative session. Nurses, hospitals, insurers, Democrats and Republicans all supported the bill in order to fund health care and lower premiums for more than half a million Oregonians.

**Voting YES on Measure 101 means protecting health care for Oregonians who otherwise couldn’t afford care** and are too often forced to go to the emergency room when they are sick. If the measure fails, thousands of our most vulnerable patients will be in jeopardy of losing their health care.

It is critical we stand together to protect Oregon families by supporting Measure 101 in the Jan. 23 special election.

Learn more, get involved, and add your name to pledge to vote YES on Measure 101 at:

www.OregonRN.org/YesOnMeasure101