

EDITORIAL

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Vol State needs a campus nurse

Volunteer State Community College's nurse, Betty Brown, will be retiring in June, leaving a void that the college has yet to decide if it will fill.

Affectionately known as Nurse Betty, Brown has served at the college's nurse since August of 1974. Despite a growing trend of community colleges abandoning the position, The Settler strongly encourages the administration to seek a qualified successor.

During her tenure, Nurse Betty has seen countless numbers of students pass through her office. It is a shame to think that one day students will not be able to get immediate medical help if they were to need it.

It is common for college students to forego medical insurance in order to appease more immediate financial needs.

If an incident is to occur and there is no nurse on campus, an ambulance will be called. This will be more expensive and time consuming. For these students, a school nurse is a

much better option than expensive doctor's office or emergency room visits.

The reasoning behind foregoing a nurse is not immediately clear. However, there is some interesting points to ponder. The college recently instituted a small business development center, which no doubt will require a considerable amount of resources.

The Settler does not mean any offense to anyone involved in that operation, but it makes you think that if the college has what is needed to institute a center to help businesses, why can't it supply the student body with a nurse?

Add to that the fact that college President Dr. Warren Nichols just got a new executive assistant to help him out, but there may be no nurse to help anyone else.

Nurse Betty has helped

many more people than she could possible even be given credit for

The Settler believes that the health needs of the campus outweighs most any objection that could be made.

Hopefully the administration will take a thorough look into the needs of having an on-site nurse.



Brian Estes / Staff Photo
Director of health services Betty Brown

THE SETTLER

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Good help is hard to replace

By Rob Spires

