College enrollments continue national decline.

Aldemaro Romero Jr.
CUNY Bernard M Baruch College
Nursing camps cultivate caregivers

By DEAN OLSEN
The State Journal-Register

SPRINGFIELD (AP) — Seeing America foxes, horseflies and the heartbeat of a middle-aged man in the emergency room is how Darlene Hull, a nurse at Memorial Hos- pital at Passavant in Jacksonville, describes her high school experience. Hull attended a local Catholic high school’s com- munity nursing program and said it prepared her for a career in nursing.

"It was so awesome to see how the medicine and the people worked together," Hull said.

"I have a lot of memories from that time," she said.

Nursing camps have been around for decades. The first one was held in 1925 in Springfield, Jacksonville, Taylorville and Passavant. Hull said the program allows the people to volunteer to help for those who need it.

"Their jobs were to assist people with free health care," she said.

"I realized little kids are not my thing," she said. "I thought about nursing school."

The camps in the past have gone on to become registered nurses.

"I also learned about isolation rooms, vital signs, sedation," she said.

"I was very grateful for the experience," she said.

"I found myself really interested in nursing and wanted to pursue it further to become a nurse," she said.

"The experience has just made me 10 percent that I was going to like it," she said.

"I think it’s a great way to show kindness; it’s a great thing to do with kids," she said.

"I're a registered nurse now," she said.

"I always loved music," she said. "My son never played the piano."