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UVA HR

Esther Mills, Radiological Technologist at UVA Health

How did you find your way to your current role at UVA Health?

Esther Mills, UVA Health Radiological Technologist

Esther Mills: Hello, my name is Esther Mills, and I am currently working as a diagnostic radiologic technologist at UVA Health. I was first introduced to the field in 1981 when I was hired to work in the film room. At that time, several of the technologists at the time encouraged me to go to x-ray school and unfortunately, I was not interested at the time. Fast forward: After having several jobs, I decided I needed to do something as a career, and returned to UVA and graduated in 1991. I have been working as a radiological technologist ever since.

What do you enjoy most about your job?

Esther Mills: What do I enjoy most about my job. I am an immediate gratification type person. So, one aspect of my job that I really enjoy is knowing right away whether or not I have done a good job. In the old days, it took 90 seconds for a film to be developed. But now, with the use of digital radiography, we know almost immediately whether or not we have a good image. I also enjoy the challenge of trying to get what we call "good diagnostic" or "Merrill's quality" image, when I may not always have the Merrill's- quality patient. I also receive satisfaction when x-raying children and providing them with their first x-ray and alleviating any fears that they may have. I enjoy the team aspect of radiology And being at UVA, I enjoy working at a level 1 trauma center with the services that we provide our patients.

What are your favorite things about living in Charlottesville?

Esther Mills: One of my favorite things about living in Charlottesville and Central Virginia is the variety. We have nice climate. It's not too hot; It's not too cold. We get to enjoy the four seasons. There is a variety of activities. There's the Festival of the Book, there's the Virginia Film Festival. There's the John Paul Jones Arena that brings shows here. We have the Paramount Theater downtown. There's a thriving art scene here. There's a thriving music scene here. There are wineries. There are outside places to enjoy. There's hiking and boating and tubing. And if there's something here that you can't find, Washington is not very far away and Richmond is not very far away. So, there's a little bit of something for everyone.

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