

What's Happening

a newsletter for the employees of Maine Medical Center

May 20, 1992

Vol. 23, No. 11

Healing of Art comes to MMC

The walls and ceilings of Maine Medical Center are about to take a turn for the better — and brighter. Next month, internationally known artist John Feight (pronounced “fight”) will create wall and ceiling murals at locations through the hospital. He’ll do it day and night for three days beginning June 8, and enlist the help of patients, employees, and community volunteers.

Feight is founder of the Foundation for Hospital Art, a nonprofit group that has brightened the environment of some 250 hospitals worldwide. His murals are designed to soften the hospital environment and enhance the staff’s caring and warmth.

“Art brightens lives and gives hope,”

FEIGHT, SEE P.5

Employees support CMN Telethon

The mission of the Children’s Miracle Network is to generate funds and awareness programs for the benefit of children served by its associated hospitals. “Many people at Maine Medical Center have contributed their time and energy to the Children’s Miracle Network,” says Development Director Susan Doliner. “Their help during the filming of children at MMC — working with families, making preparations, giving tours, and offering input — was invaluable. There were many activities and exciting events during the year, all of which drew tremendous support from the numerous departments serving children.”

On Saturday, May 30, and Sunday, May 31, MMC’s Children’s Miracle Network’s

TELETHON, SEE P.6

It's Working Wonders

A large black and white illustration of a teddy bear's head and paws framing a text box. The bear's head is at the top, and its paws are on the sides and bottom of the box.

Tune-In to
NEWSCHANNEL 12

Children's
Miracle Network
Telethon

For Maine Medical Center's
Children's Miracle Network Telethon
with Felicia Knight and Terry Casey
on Saturday, May 30, 1992 at 9:00 p.m.
and Sunday, May 31, 1992 to 6:00 p.m.

Proceeds will benefit
all Children's services at Maine Medical Center

Do the Foxtrot at Honor Night! See p. 2.

King Middle program is a two-way benefit

Maine Medical Center has been involved in a partnership with King Middle School for the past two years. The program is part of the Portland Partnership, which matches businesses and institutions with Portland schools to provide an added dimension to their education. Activities range from tours and job shadowing to one-on-one "mentoring."

Reports from participating departments are that the students respond well to the program. The staff enjoy the opportunity to "plant a seed" of ambition and growth in young minds, and sharing their professions with students who may one day work with them.

The best way to report the program from the school's viewpoint is to reprint the following from the latest issue of the Portland Partnership newsletter:

King Middle School News

At King Middle School, activities are going on at several levels. The partnership between Maine Medical Center and King provides mentors for individual students as well as field trip type experiences for entire classes to certain MMC departments. In one, students are working on an art project to supply tote bags for the pediatric department.

Feedback from MMC liaisons has helped King streamline communication and develop a more efficient relationship. We are enormously grateful for this valuable partnership.

The King Parents' Group met last Fall and more recently held a well-received informational program. It included reports from staff about the grants King has received and how the money is actually spent. One of the programs was conceived by a parent, Sandy Lovell, who also helped write the proposal. This is a fine application of the community and school partnership "mentality."

Our parent and volunteer activity coordinator (with lots of help from parent volunteers!) planned an outline of events for

the school year and sent it to other schools affected by King's schedule. It is hoped that in this way we can avoid scheduling events at different schools on the same date.

At King, we are fortunate to have volunteers from the community as well as many parents who are sharing their time, skills, and expertise in the classroom or school. Parents' Group programs are planned around the expressed concerns and interests of parents with an eye to informing and having fun, both. Here, too, "community people" offer information, supplies, or speakers. As we work in the "Portland Partnership philosophy," the lines between parent, educator, community member, and business person seem less distinct and we all become a little more all-of-the-above.

Departments involved in the partnership so far include Pulmonary Medicine, Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, Nursing, Human Resources, Emergency, Data Management, A/V Resources, Food Services, Technical Services, Secretarial Forum, Radiology, Materials Management, Cardiology, Rehabilitation Medicine, Medical Records, and Safety. If you or your department would like to get involved, call Mary Main at x2997.

Come back to the Roaring '20s Honor Night 1992

Grab your top hat and dancing shoes and spend an evening in the "Roaring '20s!" All employees with five years or more of service are invited to swing Wednesday, June 3, at the Holiday Inn by the Bay, starting at 5:30 PM.

Employees are invited to bring a guest along to enjoy dinner and dancing with Tony Boffa and his band. A limited number of guest tickets are on sale through Human Resources for \$15 each.

Top hats and flapper attire are invited. Knowledge of the Charleston is optional.

To "Circus of the Stars" participants:

Thank you so much for participating in the recent Talent Show here at MMC! Everyone who attended enjoyed the time they spent with us. After watching each of you for two evenings, I realized you just get better and better. I am sure some of you may soon be packing to leave for Hollywood! (Terry, Denise, Lindee, Kelley, Erica, Sally, Dianne, and Debbie — BIG HUG!)

I hope you all have a terrific year!

Jean Johnson
Chair, Talent Show Committee
President, Secretarial Forum



CAROL ROMANO, Nursing, sang "All I Have."



THE MEDETTES, Cafeteria, were insubordinate, to their drill sergeant's chagrin. They were accompanied by "Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy."

All Photos, A/V Resources.



TIM HAWKINS, Pediatrics, sang a song he wrote about families.



THESE BELLES were (almost) synchronized during the "ball ballet." They selected "Sweet Georgia Brown" for their music.

Good Citizens

Volunteerism is good for all of us

Name

Paul Labbe

Title

Director

Department

Technical Services



What kind of volunteering do you do? I do volunteer search and rescue for Wilderness Rescue, Inc., in Maine and parts of New Hampshire. When the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Park Rangers can't handle the job, we get called in. A small group of us will search for people who may be lost in the woods or injured from hiking or technical climbing. Many times we provide search management skills for locating small children or elderly persons who may be lost.

We primarily do four things: locate, access, stabilize, and transport. Given Maine's topography, any of these can present extreme challenges and objective danger. I also teach tech-

niques (rappelling, roadside rescue, high angle evacuation) to firefighters and EMTs.

How long have you been at it? I've been doing this for 13 years.

How much time do you spend volunteering? We usually get a serious call two to four times a year.

What interested you about helping others? I saw a need to extend medical care beyond the roadside. There is a lack of trained individuals doing search and rescue. If you're a mountain climber and fall or become lost or injured, to be rescued may require very specialized skills.

Why do you volunteer? I guess I do it because if a family member or friend were lost or injured out there, I would certainly like to know there's a mechanism in place to help them.

Would you encourage others to volunteer? Absolutely, whether you volunteer for search and rescue or something that is of interest to you. You're providing a service to make the quality of someone's life better. I think everyone's life touches others in some way. Whatever type of volunteering people choose, I would encourage it.

If you'd like information on a range of volunteer opportunities in the community, call Sandy Cranford, MMC's Director of Volunteer Services, at 871-2205. *Get involved!*

MMC's Blanchette MS Father of the Year

MMC employee Tim Blanchette was honored Thursday, May 14, by President George Bush at the White House for his outstanding "parenting skills" despite the challenges imposed by multiple sclerosis, a chronic, often disabling disease of the central nervous system. A Texas woman was also honored.

Blanchette was diagnosed with MS over ten years ago when he and his wife were rearing their two young sons; he had just completed a master of science degree and his career as a respiratory therapist was in full swing. Though he's had to make some adaptations to accommodate his symptoms, including weakness and balance problems, Blanchette

works full-time here in research, continuing education, and conference planning, as well as smoking prevention and cessation. He is also on the Board of the American Lung Association in Maine.

Most of Blanchette's life has focused on family. He has filled traditional fatherly roles in scouting and coaching team sports. He is also a volunteer in the Red Ribbon Campaign, designed to heighten community awareness about the seriousness of drug abuse. Blanchette is an avid cyclist, participating for the past five years in the MS 150 Bike Tour (a cycling fundraising program to fight MS), three years with his 14 year old son, Ethan. He initially built his own recumbent bicycle, and now rides a bike built to his specifications. You may see him cycling near the hospital — he rides his bike to work from Falmouth!

FEIGHT, FROM P.1

Feight says. "You can only feel it — you can't measure it. It should be part of the healing process."

Feight's visit to MMC is sponsored by the Arts Committee of the Maine Medical Center Foundation, chaired by trustee Bettsanne Holmes. "We're delighted to bring the 'healing' power of art to Maine Medical Center," she says. "This is an exciting opportunity to provide a unique experience to our staff and patients, and leave a lasting impact on the hospital's atmosphere."

There is much interest and even study of the positive role a visually pleasing environment can play in the healing process. "The human mind is structurally attuned to the environment," says Walter Christie, M.D., MMC's Assistant Chief of Psychiatry. "Our love of light, color, and composition all have a basis in neurology. Images that stimulate pleasure and feelings of friendliness appeal to the inner child who seeks warmth and safety. Entire therapies have evolved that make use of light and color to stimulate the imagination."

Feight has seen the impact of art first-hand, and his enthusiasm is infectious. His projects are not solo efforts, and he's anything but low-key. He asks patients, staff, visitors, and others to join in with brushes and rollers. He will take up residence at the hospital during his stay, painting with his "helpers" day and night, eating in the Cafeteria and sleeping when and where he can.

Murals will appear in the Cafeteria, the Ambulatory Surgery Unit hallway, the pediatric area in Emergency, the gym area in Physical Therapy, and Radiation Therapy. The selected areas are the end product of months of study following dozens of suggestions and requests.

One area to be painted is the work room on R4, and Head Nurse Susanne Sinclair, RN, says the staff is looking forward to the visit. "We've been inspired by the videos we've seen of John Feight," she says, "and we've noted how well he interacts with the patients. Especially for our long-term population, we think any additional visual distraction will be very

More painters needed

The Arts Committee needs your help in a very special part of John Feight's visit. One mural he will paint here is so special we can't even tell you what it is yet. What we *can* tell you is that it will have international significance.

We need a few volunteer painters to help with this very important work of art. Absolutely *no* artistic talent is necessary, only the desire to be part of the project.

The only fair way to choose the painters for this project is by lottery, so here's what to do if you want to be involved: fill out the slip below and drop it in the collection box at the Cafeteria or the Coffee Shop. You'll be notified if your name is drawn.

There's one other thing: if television cameras bother you, this project isn't for you. We're talking national television!

Name
Department
Extension

beneficial."

So don't be surprised if during the week of June 8, a man in surgical scrubs, pushing a gurney full of paints, hands you a roller or brush. Join in, and help bring the healing of art to Maine Medical Center.



MARGUERITE DOLINER, RN, has accepted the position of Evening Nursing Supervisor. Peggy has been a nurse here since 1986; most recently, she was an Assistant Head Nurse on R2, Maternity. A/V Photo.

Good news for patient parkers

Recognizing that the parking garage repairs underway are necessary, we know that employees who use the garage have put up with a great deal of inconvenience. In recognition of employees' patience and understanding, parking will be provided at no charge for the next two months. This applies only to employees enrolled in the payroll deduction program.

Employees should notice their parking deductions stop on Thursday, May 21. Payroll deduction for parking will begin again with checks received Thursday, July 16.

Thanks again for your cooperation during garage repairs. If you have questions about this matter, call the Office of the Associate Vice President for Administrative Services, x2944.

TELETHON, FROM P.1

annual effort will culminate in a 21-hour Telethon on NewsChannel 13, hosted by Anchor Felicia Knight and Meteorologist Terry Casey.

Please join us by tuning in and pledging your support on the 30th and 31st. Call Telethon Coordinator Bob Seavey, x2101, if you would like to volunteer during this exciting weekend. All funds raised by Maine Medical Center's Children's Miracle Network stay right here at MMC.



ELAINE SMALLEY, RN, Nursing Staffing Manager, retired recently after 37 years at MMC. From left: Robin Grigsby, Dave Baker, Smalley, Lynda Kubeck, Donna Libby, RNC, Molly Baker. A/V Photo.

Deadline coming for nursing scholarships

The Scholarship and Loan Committee of Maine Medical Center's Department of Nursing will soon consider grants for the 1992-93 school year.

Any MMC employee enrolled in or accepted into an accredited nursing program (MS, BS, AD, Diploma, LPN, CNA) is eligible to apply. The committee considers grants for both Spring and Fall semesters at the same time, so applicants should anticipate their needs for the full year.

Applications are available in the office of the Vice President for Nursing. The application deadline is July 1. For further information, contact committee chairperson Suneela Nayak, MSN, RN, Nursing Resources, x2397.

New Approaches and Applied Research on Prevention of Low Back Pain in Nursing Homes and Hospitals

*A Method for Reducing the Risk of Back
Injury Among Nursing Personnel*

Presented by:

Arun Garg, Ph.D.

University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee

June 16, 1992

8:30 AM — 5:00 PM

Registration

8:30 — 9:00 AM

Dana Health Education Center

This program is designed for nursing supervisors, head nurses, occupational health nurses, department heads, and others.

Sponsored by:

Maine Bureau of Labor Standards

Industrial Safety Division

and

Commission on Safety and Health

in the Maine Workplace

Registration deadline: June 1; \$10 fee. For brochure, call Maine Dept. of Labor, 289-6460.

MARKETPLACE

In order to ensure that everyone has an opportunity to use the "Marketplace," ads may be placed *once only*. Repeats will be allowed only on a space available basis.

FOR SALE

Maternity clothes, exc. cond. Size 12-16. Call 774-9231.

Lift dock for paddle boat and paddle boat, \$695; girl's 3-speed bike, never used. \$50. Call 787-3748.

1978 Coachman camper, A/C, awning, attached screen house. Good cond., sleeps 6. 1986 Glastron Conroy speed boat, 75 HP outboard, buoys, skis, life jackets. Great cond. Call 892-3115.

3 BR ranch, 10 mins. to MMC. LR w/fireplace, eat-in K, hardwood floors, private back yard. \$97,000. Call 797-9579 or page 870-7393.

2/3 BR cape, West End. 8 min. to MMC. 2 baths, pumpkin pine floors, off-street parking. \$110,000. Call 761-0140.

3 metal file cabinets, \$5 each. Call 774-8682.

Men's Puch silver-grey 10-speed, \$80; Apple IIC w/color monitor & Imagewriter II printer, \$700; 8' curved swimming pool slide, 3 tread s.s. ladders, pump & sand filter, telescoping pole and more. BO. Call 846-3083.

Gorham, 2 BR condo townhouse style, K, LR, DR, loft, garage, sunroom, deck, 1 1/2 baths. Gas heat. \$89,900. Call 283-9106 days, or 284-4940 evenings.

2050 Chaparral SL, 1990, Cuddy, 175 MerCruiser, full canvas, very low hours, used in fresh water only. \$13,900. Call 799-2827 after 5 PM.

King size water bed, 12 built-in drawers, mirrored head board, new mattress, heater. \$250 or BO. Call 773-4361 after 6 PM.

1981 Buick Regal, 90,000 miles, no rust, mint interior. \$1,000. DP exercise bike, used once. \$100. Call 781-3483.

1978 Ford F-250 4 WD plow truck. Rugged 3/4 ton pick-up w/7 1/2' Fisher quick-switch plow. Runs well. Good cond. \$2,000. Call 655-7944.

1983 O'Day day sailer, 15', 1988 Shorelander trailer, 1990 Evinrude 3 HP motor. Asking \$2,300. Call 892-2725.

Mobile home at Hamlet in Westbrook. 2 BR, 2 deck, shed, A/C. Many extras. Call 856-2107.

Cape Elizabeth, 3 BR, 1 bath condo. Exc. cond. Hardwood floors, large lot. \$99,800. Call 767-2491.

U2 tickets. Call 774-0502.

Sports cards, singles, sets and packs. For your favorite sports fan. Call 772-2925 days or Fri.-Sat.

AKC English Springer Spaniels. Liver and white, exc. temperment. \$275. Call 627-7328.

New wooden clothes closet. \$100 Call 767-5482 after 5 PM.

Condors TUF Box for standard pick up, \$50. Grayco Regency stroller, good cond. Pale green w/storm front attachment. \$50. Call 767-7088.

1989 mobile home, rented lot, Freeport. Exc. cond. Call 856-1079.

Kenmore microwave oven. Hi power or multi power cooking. Timer, etc. 18" x 12"; Kenmore electric typewriter, like new, many features, auto erase, \$100. Call 799-2569.

Cumberland, 2+ acre wooded building lot. Exec. neighborhood, convenient access to I-295, Portland. Call 767-0606.

The deadlines for announcement-length items and **MARKETPLACE** ads in *What's Happening* are June 3 for the June 17 issue and June 17 for the July 1 issue. All items must be in writing.

FOR RENT

2 rooms. Woodford's location, parking. Call 772-1008 between 7-9PM.

3 BR, 1 1/2 bath, W/D hook-up, cath. ceiling, oak & tile K, \$700/mo. + utils., lease, sec. dep., no pets. Call 797-6123.

1 BR apt. Near MMC/USM. Heat/elec. incl. 1 year lease, Snow emergency pkg., refs. req. Call 774-8473. Avail. July.

1 BR & studio apt., pkg, deck, skylights. \$415/mo. and \$360/mo. 1 BR apt., Cape Elizabeth, garage. \$525 incl. all. Call 767-2844 or 780-4642.

Wolfboro, NH. Cottages on the water. Exc. for family vacations. Call 603-569-6536.

July/August. Double A frame. 3 BR, 2 baths, South Casco, VCR/cable, deck w/picnic table, W/D. \$1,000/mo. + sec. dep., utils. Call 655-5434.

10 rm Victorian, 4 BR, 1.5 baths, pkg, W/D hook-up, hardwood flrs, stained glass. \$900/mo. + utils. Call 772-5030.

Cape Elizabeth, 5 BR, 2 bath, Victorian home w/porches, balcony, deck, yard, woodstove. Near Willard Beach. 3 miles to MMC. \$1,150/mo. + utils. Call 799-2913.

Broadway, 1st floor, 3 BR, W/D hook-up, parking. \$650/mo. + sec. dep. Heated. Call 799-2624 eves.

Rosemont, 2 BR, oil heat, pkg. \$425/mo. Call 772-3133.

West End, 1st flr, 2 BR apt., W/D hook-up, pkg, hardwood flrs, 2 fireplaces, wd stove, gas heat. K, bath, storage, deck, cat OK. \$625/mo. + sec. dep., utils., lease. Call 775-1034.

3 BR, 2 bath condo, furnished, West End. Avail. early June to Labor Day. Near MMC, parking, rent negot. Call 773-8939 or 633-4146.

ROOMMATE WANTED

For apt. in Willard Square. W/D incl., near beach. \$180/mo. + utils. Call 799-5573.

WANTED

Homes to clean, reasonable rates. Exc. refs. Free estimates. Call 761-0316.

Small apt. w/utills. incl. in MMC area. Will work in exchange for reduction in rent. Call 773-1170.

Used wooden swing set. Call 799-7812.

Kitchen & bath repair/facelift jobs, replacement windows, above ground pools, patio, decks. Insured. Call 774-9231.

CNA to assist family with in home care of elderly family member w/Alzheimer's disease. Call 781-4619.

Used ping pong table. Call 878-8134 eves.

What's Happening at MMC

- May 20 **Osteoporosis, Healthy Happy Hour.** 5:00 PM. See below.
- May 22 **Positive Discipline Techniques.** Lunchtime Parenting Series. Noon-1:00 PM, Dana #1.
- May 28 **MSB: Developing Quality Indicators: The Inspection of Data.** AHA Teleconference, 1:00-2:30 PM, Dana #1, Call x2536.
- May 28 Employee Softball League meeting, 4:30-5:30 PM, Dana #1. All coaches, interested players invited. For details, call Tina Tirabassi, x2834.
- May 30 **Advanced Reproductive Technologies.** 8:15 AM-Noon, Marriott Hotel. Call 774-5941 for info.
- June 3 **Employee Honor Night.** Begins 5:30 PM, Holiday Inn by the Bay. See p.2.
- June 5 **Conflict Resolution among Children, Siblings, and Others.** Lunchtime Parenting Series. Noon-1:00 PM, Dana #2.
- June 11 **Coding for ICD-9-CM: Physician Presentations to Improve Coding Skills.** AHA Teleconference, 1:00-2:30 PM, AHA UPDATE follows at 2:35 PM. Dana #3, Call x2536.

Osteoporosis

Wednesday, May 20, 1992

Twenty-five million Americans have a bone thinning disease known as osteoporosis. It progresses without symptoms or pain until a fracture occurs, generally in the hip, spine, or wrist. Although osteoporosis affects more than half of all women over age 65, one out of every five persons with osteoporosis is a man.

Join us as Endocrinology Director Thomas S. Bigos, M.D., discusses causes, prevention, and treatment.

We offer complimentary healthy refreshments, an hour-long presentation, and plenty of time for questions. We'll test your blood pressure and cholesterol level free of charge. The session begins at 5:00 PM (testing starts at 4:15 PM) in the Dana Health Education Center. Call 871-2196 for more information.

About People

• **Julia Haverinen, RRT**, has been appointed SCU Supervisor for the Division of Pulmonary Medicine. Haverinen comes to the Respiratory Care section from the Division's Pulmonary Function Laboratory.

- Change name or address as shown on address label.
- Please remove my name from your *What's Happening* mailing list.

Please return this address label in an envelope to the Public Information Dept.

What's Happening

Maine Medical Center, 22 Bramhall Street, Portland, ME 04102-3175

What's Happening is published every other Wednesday at Maine Medical Center for members of the hospital community and for friends of the institution throughout Maine and northern New England. Comments, questions, and suggestions may be addressed to the Office of Public Information, MMC, 22 Bramhall Street, Portland, Maine 04102-3175. (207) 871-2196. Editor: Wayne L. Clark.

NEW EMPLOYEES

NURSING: Susan Gauthier, Joan Fenno

SURGERY: Susan Allshouse

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES: Christina Arnot, Alexander Layug

MMCRI: Bruce Cahill

FOOD SERVICES: Stacey Cormier, Julie Holmes

PSYCHIATRY: Randall Melvin

MATERIELS MANAGEMENT: Sally McIntyre

DATA MANAGEMENT: Linda Wall

PRINT SHOP: Brian Whitney

PEDIATRICS: Ann Peternell

REHAB MEDICINE: Anne Schaff

Attention nursing staff who participated in the QI Glove Study: Will you help us evaluate some new gloves? Call Jill, x4731.

Contest winners are heart smart

The winners of the Library's National Library Week "Are you heart-hart Smart" contest were Georgann Dickey, RN, Pamela Perkins, Dietitian, and Helaine Rogoff, University of Vermont student. The prize each won was a gift certificate to MMC's Flower Box. Congratulations to the winners and thanks to all for participating! Better luck next year!

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