

what's happening

Maine Medical Center
Portland, Maine 04102

November 9, 1988

Vol. 20, No. 7

First patient admitted 114 years ago today

Since the first patient was admitted to Maine General Hospital (now Maine Medical Center) on November 9, 1874, great advances have been made in the field of medical science. So great that a comparison of the statistics of 1874 with those of 1988 contain rather startling revelations.

Maine Medical Center treats in one day nearly five times the number of patients it received during its entire first year. (The daily average number of patients in the hospital for the past year was 524.) Last year 24,961 inpatients were treated as compared with 114 in 1874. Even more remarkable is the average number of days each patient re-

mained in the hospital—40 days in 1874, and 8 days in 1988. The present percentage of free service is 6.36%, almost a third of the 1874 proportion of 17.5%. In 1874 the average cost per day was a mere \$2.50, today the average cost per day is \$730.00.

The following excerpts, taken from a news story in the Portland Sunday Telegram, November 11, 1934, give a vivid picture of hospital care in 1874:

Medical and surgical procedure at the newly found Maine General Hospital was according to the best knowledge of the period, but as described by doctors who can recall through personal experience and conversation with senior physicians of 40 or 50 years ago, it seems strange indeed to modern ears.

FIRST PATIENT, page 2

Award named in honor of Robert J. Lapham

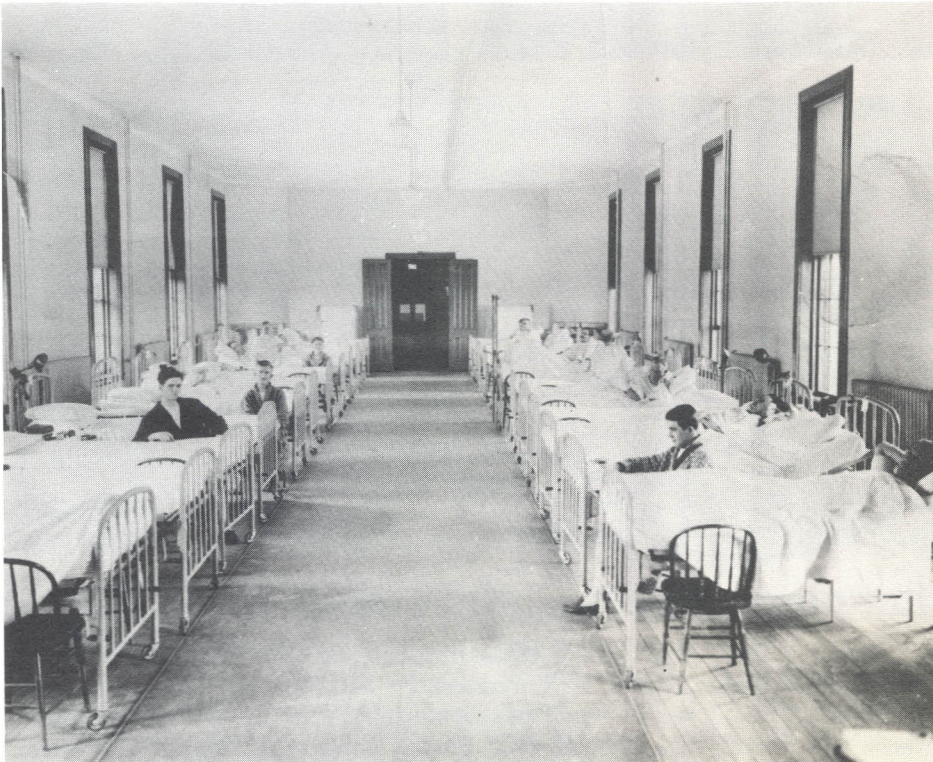
The founder of MMC's Physician Assistant Residency Program in Emergency Medicine and a graduate of the program were simultaneously honored by their Maine colleagues last month. Susan Motley, PA-C, a 1982 graduate of the program, received the first annual Robert J. Lapham Outstanding Award Service from the Downeast Association of Physician Assistants (DEAPA). Lapham developed the PA residency program at MMC in 1979.

The award was named in Lapham's honor to recognize his years of service to DEAPA, and the profession. The PA Residency Program no longer exists, but Lapham still works in MMC's Emergency Room and continues to organize a nationally recognized annual fall conference to provide continuing education to PA's from throughout Maine and other parts of the country. He has also been active in state professional regulatory issues.

DEAPA has given an Outstanding Service Award each year since 1985, and Lapham was the first recipient of the award that now bears his name.

Susan Motley works in the Emergency Department at Mid-Maine Medical Center in Waterville, and is currently President of DEAPA. She was honored for her long service to the organization, and like Lapham, for her ability to motivate others to work for the good of the profession.

DEAPA is the Maine chapter of the American Academy of Physician Assistants. Presently nearly 200 physicians assistants are working in emergency rooms, operating rooms, private practices, and other settings throughout the state.



PATIENT WARD in the old Maine General Hospital. The date of the photograph is unknown. (A/V Photo)

FIRST PATIENT, from page one

In the '70's surgical instruments were not boiled. Dilute carbolic acid was the standard disinfectant and preparation for an operation included a liberal use of carbolic spray on everything in sight. There were no gauze sponges—sea sponges soaked in bicloride solution were used instead. There was not even an operating room used for paying patients in the '90's. Operations, considered justly a last resort by both doctors and laymen, were performed in private rooms. One of the surgeons whose recollections date back to that period, still remembers vividly the time he used to spend collecting carefully all the necessary paraphernalia, loading it upon a wheeled tea-wagon-like affair for transportation to the room selected, hoping meanwhile that all would turn out favorably.

No water to drink was the rule in fevers; and the patient who survived an attack of typhoid then, demonstrated an ability to withstand thirst quite as much as the onslaughts of germs. The same principle was applied to the fever following wounds and operations; and legends still persist of thirst-racked patients who drank surreptitiously from their hot water bottles when they could manage to do so unobserved by the nurse.

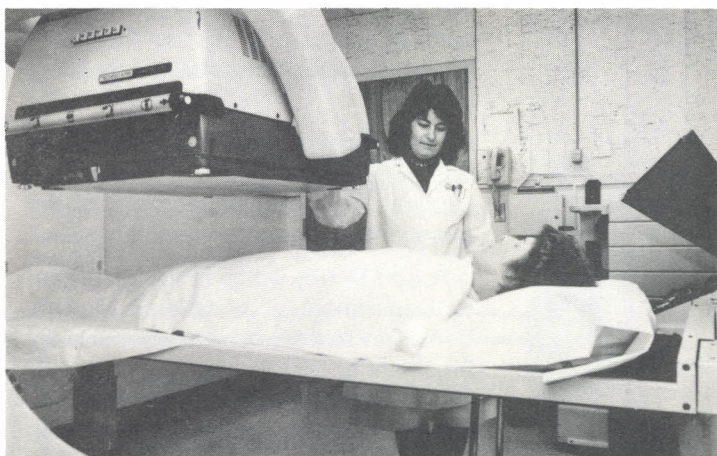
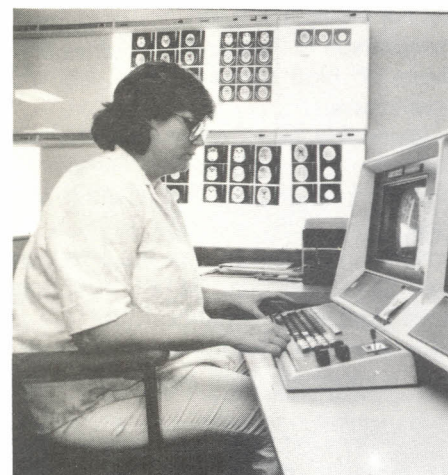
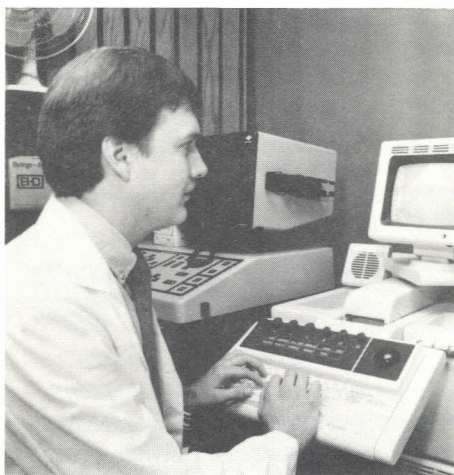
Strict rules as to visiting governed the wards; and no patient in a female ward was allowed to receive any caller of the opposite sex other than her father, son, husband or brother.

Each day of the week there was served at breakfast tea and coffee, milk and sugar, wheat and brown bread and butter, while the main dishes were served in

regular rotation: Sundays, baked beans; Mondays, cold meat; Tuesdays, ham; Wednesday, cold beef; Thursdays, tripe; Fridays, fish; and Saturdays, fishballs. Vegetables were served at dinner along with the customary dessert of pudding or pie.

Other markers of progress over the years:

- a single bookkeeper was employed in 1878 to keep the accounts.
- the first telephone and the first elevator were installed in 1879.
- electricity took the daytime place of oil lamps in the hospital in 1890.
- fire escapes were installed in 1895.
- the first typewriter was purchased in 1903.



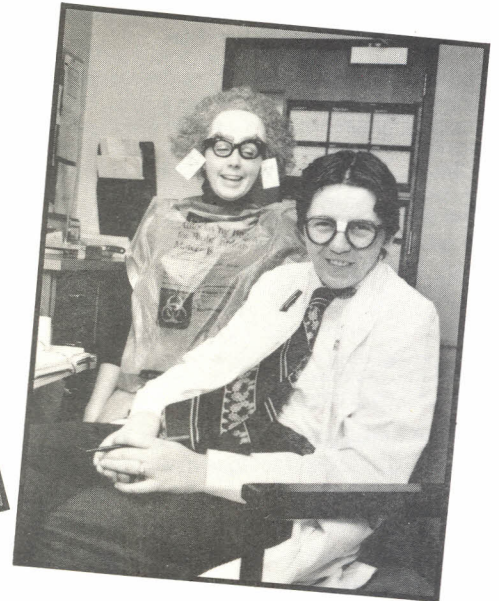
National Radiologic Technology Week — November 7-13, 1988

The Department of Radiology has 135 employees who specialize in the use of medical radiation and other imaging techniques to aid in the diagnosis and treatment of disease. Clockwise, Dorian Glazier, RTR, monitors the ultrasonic waves used to detect disease in Ultrasound. Debra Robinson, RTR, performs a mammogram on a patient to screen for breast disease in Mammography. Beth Hawkes, RTR, obtains a cross-sectional image of a patient's anatomy in CT Scanning. Linda Woods, RTN, performs a total body bone scan on a patient to detect disease in Nuclear Medicine. Paula Keogh, RTT, and Sandra Carslick, RTT, treat an oncology patient with radiation therapy.

About People

Patricia Andrews, MT (standing) has been named Chief Medical Technologist, for the Immunoassay Section of Pathology. Immunoassay is a recently created section formed by the merger of immunology and radio immunoassay. Andrews has her BS degree in Medical Technology from the University of New Hampshire and completed her clinical affiliations at Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center. She has been at Maine Medical Center since 1979, and most recently was the Assistant Chief Medical Technologist for immunology.

Kathy Sensecqua, MT (seated) has been named Assistant Chief Medical Technologist for Immunoassay. Sensecqua has her BS degree in Biology from the University of Southern Maine, and BA degree in Secondary Education from the University of Southern Maine. She has been at Maine Medical Center since 1978, and most recently was a senior Medical Technologist in radio immunoassay.



Film reveals good management secrets

Not all management needs to be an uphill battle. *The One Minute Manager* reveals the three secrets of the successful one-minute manager: one minute goal setting, one-minute praising, and one-minute reprimands. (50 minutes)

Monday, November 14, 1988

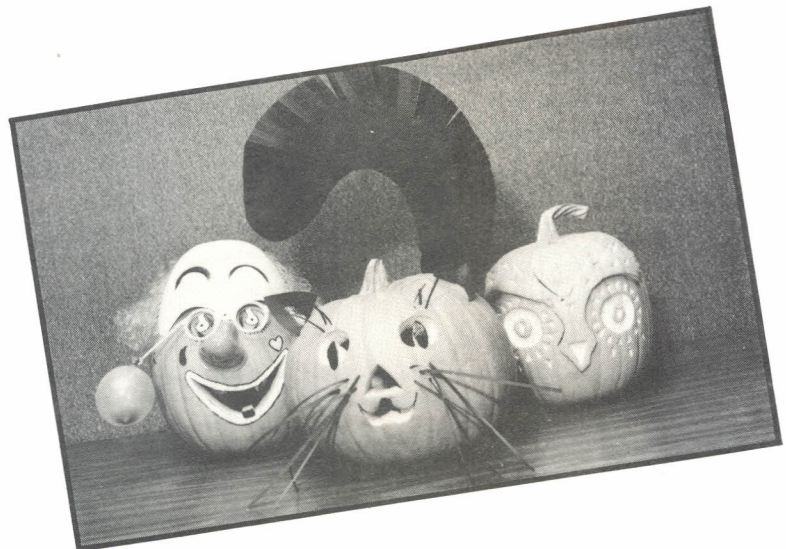
12 noon-1 PM

Classroom 1

Tuesday, November 15, 1988

9:30 PM-10:30 PM

Classroom 4



GHOULS AND FOOLS were spotted roaming the halls of Maine Medical Center last week during the annual Halloween festivities. A couple of real nerds were found working in Radiology, several clowns were caught goofing off in the cafeteria, and other frightening creatures were seen trying to spook the patients and visitors. The festivities included a pumpkin carving contest, and over 35 clever-looking pumpkins were entered. Winners were; 1st place, cat – Audio/Visual; 2nd place, owl – Paula Cote of the Blood Bank; and 3rd place, clown – Sandy Crebly of Medical Records. (A/V Photo)

Marketplace

FOR RENT: Attractive, partly-furnished studio apartment, suitable for 1 non-smoker. Nice neighborhood, walking distance to ocean beach. \$250.00 per month plus electric heat. Security deposit, no lease, off street parking. 799-8725.

FOR SALE: Patsy Cline 12 Greatest Hits, \$20; Elvis Blue Hawaii, \$25; call 774-5087.

FOR SALE: Wood boiler can be connected to oil burner, \$600, used 2 seasons; combo sink, electric stove and refrigerator, great for small apartment or camp, \$50. Call 892-8039.

FOR SALE: 1981 Dodge Omni, good condition, low mileage, must sell, \$795 or best offer. Call 879-1613.

FOR SALE: 1986 Cav. Z-24, sunroof, AM/FM stereo cassette. Call 657-3190 evenings.

FOR SALE: Women's full length leather coat with separate belt, camel color, size 10, never used. Call x4238 days, or 883-1613 or 934-9356 evenings.

FOR SALE: Sofa bed, contemporary style, antique white, excellent condition, asking \$350. Call x4238 or 364-8039 days, or 934-9356 or 883-1613 evenings.

FOR SALE: 2 family house, Deering area, 1st floor, 5 rooms and a bath, parking for 5 cars. Call 799-8364.

FOR SALE: Ladies size 7½ Caber ski boots, \$50, or best offer. Call 775-3428 evenings.

FOR SALE: Plate glass table, top Pittsburgh plate clear glass, ¾" thick, 48" square with beveled edges, rounded corners. Botton, yellow iron base. Call 797-5427 or 797-5476.

FOR SALE: Amana 1500 watt microwave, \$150 or best offer. Queen hide-a-bed, excellent condition, navy, \$225 or best offer. Call 772-8533.

FOR SALE: 1977 Pontiac Ventura. low mileage, good condition. AM/FM cassette, \$550. Call 772-6894 after 5 PM.

FOR SALE: 1976 Hornet station wagon, must sell, \$395. Call x2755 or 772-7193.

FOR SALE: 3 BR Cape in Biddeford, 2 car garage, 2½ baths, living room, dining room, family room, kitchen with breakfast area, fireplace, atrium door to deck, tile flooring in entry and hallway. Central vacuum, oil heat and many custom features. \$185,000. Call 282-1641.

FOR SALE: Ladies size 6 leather jacket, excellent condition, \$40. Ladies skirts and sweaters, mint condition, small size, best offer. Full length down filled coat, lavender color, excellent condition, size 5. Best offer. Call 797-9127.

FOR SALE: Black Schwinn, 10 speed ladies bike, excellent condition, hardly used, \$85 or best offer. Call 874-2974 after 5 PM.

FOR SALE: Honda Prelude SI, A/C, power steering, brakes, and windows, cruise control, 43K, AM/FM cassette. Call 839-2726.

FOR SALE: North Deering, 3 BR, living room, formal dining room, family room, 2½ baths, kitchen, 2 car garage. \$164,900. Call 797-0875 after 6:30 PM weekdays, or any time weekends.

FOR SALE: Mazda 1988 RX-7. 2 door, loaded, under 1,000 miles, perfect condition, lifetime rust proofing. \$18,000 or best offer. Call 797-6562.

FOR SALE: Spacious 3 BR home in excellent area of Saco near the beach. Includes formal dining room, family room, sun room, and open deck on almost ½ acre. Easy commute to Portland. \$144,000. Call 284-8886.

FOR SALE: Available time sharing, luxury condo, 2 BR, 2 bath, 1 week available between now and 1/31/89. Location of your choice, prime time, world wide. \$600. Instant exchange available. Call x4238 days or 883-1613 or 934-9356 evenings.

FOR RENT: 3 BR apartment, newly renovated, \$500/mo. plus utils., parking. Call 773-4115.

FOR RENT: Rosemont area, 3 BR, garage, large fenced yard. \$600/mo. Call 773-3091, leave message.

FOR RENT: Peaks Island, small 2 BR contemporary home fully furnished, ocean views, close to ferry, immaculate. \$450/mo. Call 998-2739.

FOR RENT: Cozy 2 BR ranch in quiet Cape Elizabeth area. Living room, kitchen, full basement with family room, laundry and workshop. \$750/mo. Call 284-6604 after 6 PM.

FOR RENT: Large bedroom, furnished, use of kitchen, parking space. located in spacious condo in South Portland, 10 minutes to Portland, large yard. \$250 per month. Call 879-0084 after 6 PM.

FOR RENT: 1 BR condo at a beach front resort in Pompano Beach, Florida. Sleeps 4, 1 week, \$500. April 22-April 29, 1989. Call 657-4291.

FOR RENT: 1st floor, 6 rooms, parking, unheated, \$500/mo. plus utils. Call 773-4115.

what's happening

WHAT'S HAPPENING is published every Wednesday at Maine Medical Center, Portland, Maine 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 Public Information Office, MMC, Portland, ME 04102. Telephone: (207) 871-2196.

Wayne L. Clark, Editor.

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ROOMMATE WANTED: Sunny Victorian home near Payson Park/Back Cove. Quiet household, newly renovated house with nice yard, parking off-street, and W/D. Professional woman w/mellow dog seek a responsible independent housemate. \$300/mo. plus ½ utils. Call 871-9341.

ROOMMATE WANTED: To share 2 BR house. 15 minutes to MMC. \$300/mo. plus ½ utils. Call 854-1779.

CHILDCARE: Needed occasional evenings during November and December in Riverton. Must have own transportation. Call 878-2555.

CHILDCARE: MMC employee available for weekend babysitting in your home, hourly, daily, or whole weekend. Friday 6 PM to Sunday 3 PM. If possible, please call for appointment. 871-8941 after 4:30 PM.

FOUND: 2 USM School of Nursing pins, 1972, 1987. If you are missing yours, please call the Staffing Office at 2362.

FOR SALE: 2 for 1 sale, '79 Subaru station wagon, D/L, 5 speed, A/C, AM/FM; and '79 Datsun 210 hatchback 4 speed. Best offer. Call 729-4800 after 5:30 PM.

FOR SALE: 2 family house, 5 rooms and bath first floor. 7 rooms and bath, 2nd floor. Deering High School. Call 799-8364.

FOR SALE: 1982 Subaru wagon 4 wheel drive. 114,000 miles, some rust, sticker through 9/89. \$1,200 or best offer. Call 846-3507.

what's happening Maine Medical Center
Portland, Maine 04102

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