

# what's happening

Maine Medical Center  
Portland, Maine 04102

May 11, 1988

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## Health care fares well in Augusta

The Maine Legislature has adjourned its session, after passing a number of hospital-sponsored legislative initiatives in its closing hours. The new laws will allow hospitals to recover some additional costs, to spend money on some approved new services and equipment, and to take initial steps toward solving the health care labor shortage.

The passage of L.D. 2191 creates a one-time expansion of the Certificate of Need Development Account established as part of the Maine's hospital regulation system. The Maine Health Care Finance Commission establishes a dollar amount that represents the maximum amount all Maine hospitals may spend for new serv-

ices and equipment each year. If the dollar value of all projects approved by the Maine Department of Human Services exceeds that amount, hospitals must compete for permission to spend the necessary money.

The new law adds \$7.8 million in credits to the Development Account, to partially compensate for several years of underfunding. The law doesn't provide any actual money, but rather allows hospitals to spend and recover money under the state regulatory system.

Maine Medical Center's proposal for a mobile lithotripsy service, already granted a Certificate of Need by the state, is among the projects that may now compete for the limited credits. Some \$18 million worth of projects statewide either are

LEGISLATION page 2

## Appreciation Days

The MMC Annual Fund Committee is sponsoring several "Appreciation Day Programs," designed to recognize and thank the many donors to the 1987 MMC Annual Fund, for the twelfth successive year.

The first program took place late Tuesday afternoon, May 10. The program began with greetings and introductions by Mrs. James R. Flaker, Chairman of the 1988 Appreciation Days, and Mrs. Herbert S. Holmes, Jr., Chairman of the MMC Board of Trustees. Four well-known MMC physicians presented an informal panel discussion and answered questions from the audience. Christiane L. Northrup, M.D. (Obstetrician and Gynecologist), John L. Randall, M.D. (Chief of Family Practice Medicine), and Peter K. Shaw, M.D. (Cardiologist and Lifeline Program) spoke on "Wellness—Patience, Persistence, Performance, and Paradox." Roger Willock, Corporator and Chairman of the 1988 Annual Fund, gave the closing remarks, after which participants took guided tours of the Neonatal Intensive Care Center and the Radiology Department.

The second program will take place

APPRECIATION, page 2



ROVING SINGERS were heard throughout the hospital last Friday on National Nurse Day singing their theme "Proud to care." Other activities included a nursing Trivial Pursuit contest, an essay contest and a videotape of MMC nurses with antidotes on nursing pride. (A/V Photo)

## EAC to plan trip

The Employee Activity Committee is sponsoring a weekend on the Prince of Fundy, May 21 and 22.

The ship will leave Portland at 9:30 PM on May 21 and arrive back in Portland at 8:30 PM May 22. The cost is \$85.50 per person based on double occupancy. EAC has reserved cabins on the outside of the main deck with toilet and wash basin facilities. The trip includes Sunday morning breakfast and the return dinner buffet Sunday evening.

Contact Joyce DeCesere at extension 2672 for further information and reservations.



approved and awaiting credits or are in the approval "pipeline."

As significant as the passage of the law was the acknowledgement by those on both sides of the debate that the current hospital regulatory system in Maine is seriously flawed. A Blue Ribbon Commission is now examining that system, with a report due next year, but the Legislature agreed with hospitals that further delays in allowing needed projects to go forward were unacceptable.

The bill was sponsored by Senator Barbara Gill (R-Cumberland), and cosponsored by Senate President Charles Pray (D-Penobscot), Assistant GOP House Leader Eugene Paradis (R-Old Town), and Rep. Neil Rolde (D-York). Significant opposition to the bill came from Blue Cross and Blue Shield, Unum, and the Maine Chamber of Commerce and Industry, and the Maine State Nurses Association.

A significant victory for health care workers was the passage of L.D. 2392. The new law amends a recently passed informed consent statute to provide a mechanism to obtain an HIV test if a healthcare worker is accidentally exposed to body fluids. The employee must request the test, and the law provides that the employee may not be dismissed if the test is positive.

The law also allows hospitals to recover the costs associated with compliance with universal precaution guidelines. This means the Maine Health Care Finance Commission must allow for those

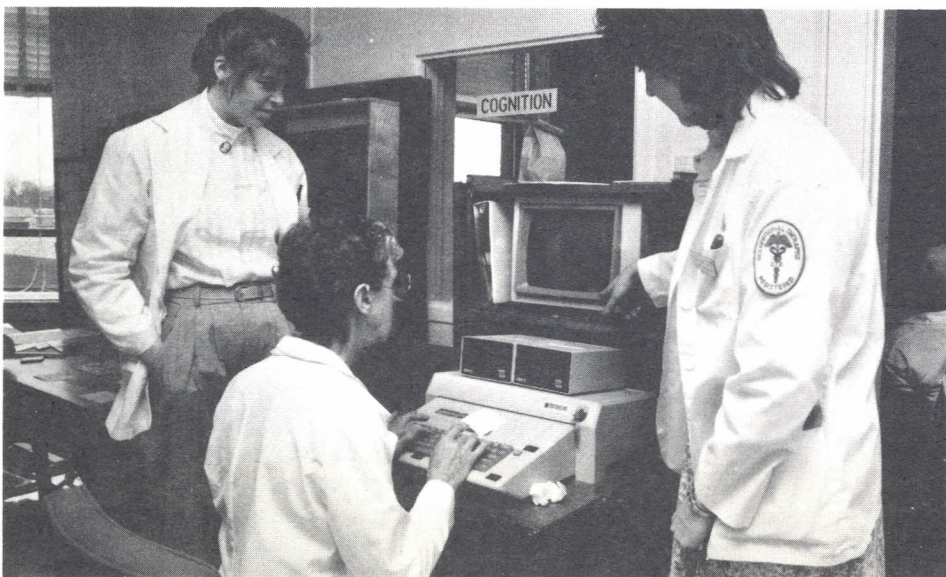
costs in the revenue limits it sets for Maine hospitals.

The bill was sponsored by Senator Barbara Gill (R-Cumberland), and cosponsored by Senator Joseph Brannigan (D-Cumberland) and Representatives Jean Dellert (R-Gardiner) and John Diamond (D-Bangor). The opposition included insurers, business, and the Maine State Nurses Association.

The health care personnel shortage was addressed by L.D. 2433, which was passed by the Legislature but "killed" when the Appropriations Committee refused to fund it. It contained a provision establishing a scholarship and loan program for health professions education. A major provision in the original bill, which would have allowed hospitals to recover some increased costs of recruiting and paying health care professionals, was not included in the final bill.

Representative Margaret Clark (D-Brunswick) sponsored L.D. 2433, and it was co-sponsored by Senator Barbara Gill (R-Cumberland), Senator Nancy Clark (D-Cumberland), and Representative Jean Dellert (R-Gardiner).

On the positive side, an initiative from Governor McKernan, the Health Occupations Training (HOT) bill, was passed and funded. L.D. 2304 will make \$1 million available for training programs for certified nurses' assistants, home health care aides, and hospital-based technicians, and for loan paybacks for registered nurses.



MARY SACO, PT AIDE plays a computer program that requires cognitive skills at an Open House in Occupational Therapy. Looking on is (left) Margaret Ford, OT, and (right) Stacey Thrower. (A/V Photo)

Tuesday, May 24, with coffee and registration at 9:30 AM. Mrs. Flaker and President Edward C. Andrews, Jr., M.D., will begin the program with greetings and introductions. This will be followed by an informal discussion on "The Maine Medical Assessment Program: Variations in Health Care," by Daniel F. Hanley, M.D., D.Sc., Director of the Maine Medical Assessment Program and MMC Corporator. (Dr. Hanley is best known to many as the long-time former Bowdoin College and Olympic physician and former executive Director of the Maine Medical Association). Guided tours will include the Neonatal Intensive Care Center and the Conley Laboratories and Pathology Department.

Anyone wishing to make a reservation for the May 24 program is invited to write or call the Development Office, Maine Medical Center, 22 Bramhall Street, Portland, Maine, 04102, phone number 871-2669. Depending on space available, reservations will be received through May 19, and admission tickets will be sent to those with confirmed bookings.

## How MMC supports itself

Because a number of employees did not hear about "How MMC Supports Itself", one more session has been scheduled:

Thursday, May 19, 1988  
10 AM-12 noon  
Dana Education Center  
Classroom 4

In this session, Don McDowell, Executive Vice President and Treasurer, Mike Kilmartin, Associate Vice President of Financial Services and Gene Joyner, Director of Budgets and Reimbursements will speak to MMC employees about the following:

- \* What are some of the costs and some financial pressures involved in running MMC?

- \* What are some major financial changes that have taken place over the past five years?

- \* What impact have regulations like Medicare and the Maine Health Care Finance Commission had on MMC?

To register, please call the Office of Training and Development at extension 2824.



## More Marketplace

**FOR SALE:** Pool table regulation size, rack, sticks, etc. included. Excellent condition, asking \$200. Call 892-4835.

**FOR SALE:** Maytag W/D, \$325 for the pair. Both in excellent condition. Call 772-8897 between 2 and 6 PM.

**FOR SALE:** 1986 GMC factory conversion van, 29,000 miles. Excellent condition. Asking \$12,500. Call 783-9184.

**FOR SALE:** Mercury Lynx, great commuter, 48,000 highway miles. \$3,000 or best offer. Call 865-9444 after 6 PM or weekends.

**FOR SALE:** 14' boat, fiberglass, Runabout with 50 HP outboard motor. \$3,500. Call 797-3541.

**FOR SALE:** Cute, adorable, maltese puppies. Only 2 males left. They are all white, have had their first shots and are ready to find a new home. Call 892-7441.

**FOR SALE:** 1972 Ford Galaxie, 80,000 miles. Best offer. Call 774-1930.

**FOR SALE:** 1976 Porsche 911S coupe, \$12,500. Call 657-2104 after 4 PM except weekends.

**WANTED:** Homes to wallpaper or paint. Professionals with excellent references will wallpaper your rooms (\$75 for an average room, wall preparation extra) or paint (estimates given). Please call 774-9506 leave message.

**WANTED:** Residential or commercial cleaning accounts. Services performed by professional with ten years experience and excellent references. Estimates given. Please call 767-4460, leave message.

**WANTED:** Ride to MMC for "Luke", golden lab Guide dog, and master looking for a ride to work M-F. Live shortly before Warren Avenue on Route 302. Need to arrive at MMC between 7 and 8 AM. Will pay parking fees. Please call 797-8187 if you can help.

**FOR RENT:** Very nice 1 BR apartment, in North Deering area. Modern, W/W carpeting, garbage disposal, all utils. and electric. Quiet country setting, parking is available, no pets, \$450/mo. plus utils. security deposit and lease. Call 797-0860.

## About People

Sherry L. Colville, MT has been named Assistant Chief Medical Technologist of MMC's Blood Bank. Colville has been a medical technologist at Maine Medical Center since 1982.



National Hospital Week

May 8-14, 1988

You're our specialty



118 MMC VOLUNTEERS were honored for their service and dedication at the Volunteer Recognition Program last week. Watson Gribbin, shown above with President Andrews, was one of the Special Award Recipients for his volunteer service of over 500 hours. Mrs Herbert S. Holmes, Jr., Chairman of the Board of Trustees was awarded for her 10,000 hours of volunteer service. (A/V Photo)



# Marketplace

**FOR RENT:** Hindscoft apartment, choice location, 5 newly redecorated rooms, 2 BR, formal dining room, fireplace in living room, heated, \$595/mo. call 797-2470, or 775-0874.

**FOR RENT:** Rosemont area, charming 2½ bedroom in 2 family home. \$475/mo. plus heat. Call 772-7494.

**FOR RENT:** Large 2 BR apartment with lots of storage, off-street parking. Call 829-5320.

**FOR RENT:** Furnished room with kitchen privileges in nice S. Portland neighborhood, May through September, \$45/week plus references and security deposit. Call 772-6397 or 772-2350.

**FOR RENT:** Sunny 3 BR apartment, hardwood floors and carpet, eat-in-kitchen, full bath, 2nd floor, storage, no dogs, \$495 plus utils. Call 772-3078.

**FOR RENT:** 2 BR house, fenced in yard, fully applianced, quiet neighborhood, \$700/mo. plus utils. and security deposit. Call 797-4202.

**FOR RENT:** Furnished apartment, Western prom, 2 BR. large kitchen, living room, 2 fireplaces, 1½ bath, garage, very nice, \$625/mo. Call 865-3292 after 5 PM.

**FOR RENT:** Raised ranch on 14 acres; 3 BR, LR, DR with patio doors to outside deck. Rec room with fireplace, large kitchen with dishwasher, refrigerator, range, W/D, all curtains/drapes, 2 car garage and workshop. \$800 plus heat. Call 892-8313 or 797-7789.

**FOR SALE:** Yard sale, 421 Wood Fort Street, Portland, May 14, & 15, 9 AM-4 PM. All household items, toys, books, tires, furniture, plus much more.

**FOR RENT:** Attractive, sunny, 1st floor studio apartment. No pets. \$300/mo. includes all utils., security deposit and lease required. Call 774-6621.

**FOR SALE:** Wooden desk, dresser, table, chairs, lamps, kitchen utensils, pots, pans, dishes, books. Priced to sell, moving. Call 774-3695.

**WANTED:** The Red Thread alterations, mending and some dress making. Call Peggy 883-5647, leave message.

**CHILDCARE:** Babysitter needed: part-time days for 1 yr. old girl. Call 797-0667.

**CHILDCARE:** Mother of 2 will babysit in my Cape Elizabeth home full or part-time. Approximately 3 miles from MMC. Call 799-0991.

**WANTED:** Persons for a free Mary Kay facial and glamour makeover done by a trained beauty consultant. Call 642-2987.

**WANTED:** Affordable room and board for female MMC student. Classes start in July of 1988. Portland area preferred. Call 603-431-8919.

**ROOMMATE WANTED:** Non-smoker wanted for convenient North Deering house. Use of yard, garage, basement, etc. Rent \$310/mo. plus utils., call 797-5919.

**ROOMMATE WANTED:** Single professional female seeks same to share a sunny apartment located on West Street. Heat included, off-street parking. Please call 774-3695 evenings.

**ROOMMATE WANTED:** M/F to share beautiful apartment in the West End. Available 6/1/88. Call 761-2762.

**ROOMMATE WANTED:** Male 25-35, non-smoker to share spacious, newly remodeled apartment near MMC. \$275-\$325/mo. includes own bedroom, heat, basic utils., off-street parking, W/W carpeting, on-premise laundry. Deposit required, call 775-3083 evenings after 8 and Sunday.

**FOR RENT:** Osteopathic Hospital area, 8 room, 3 bath house with stately charm. Large, quiet yard, deck, garage, full basement, W/D hook-up. No pets, \$825/mo. plus utils. call 773-8728.

## 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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**WANTED:** Family with 4 children looking to lease a 3-4 bedroom house in Portland. Preferably Hall School area. Please call 761-2520.

**WANTED:** Houses to sit. Responsible, non-smoking, no pets, quiet life-style health care administrator will sit homes this summer. Please call 655-7602.

**FOUND:** 1 University of Maine Nursing pin dated 1977 with the initials MJM, and 1 University of Southern Maine Nursing pin dated 1984 with the initials TAS. Contact Security Office at x2124.

**FOR SALE:** 17' Rangle Lake boat, fiberglass with mahogany trim, \$695; 7½ HP Mercury, \$695; both like new, call 799-8014.

**FOR SALE:** Scandia woodstove, takes 24" logs, \$125; Sears 10" Radial arm saw, excellent condition, \$250; Call 892-5216 after 5 PM.

**FOR SALE:** 1981 Yamaha 750 Virago, like new, low miles, several extras, \$1,500. Call 883-3057 after 5 PM.

**FOR SALE:** 1982 Cavalier wagon, standard transmission, A/C, AM/FM cassette, power windows, front wheel drive, 92,000 miles, very good condition, \$1,200. Call 797-7665, leave message.

**WANTED:** Good home for 2 beautiful, loving Siamese cats (brothers). Please call John at 799-4156 evenings.

**WANTED:** Part-time help doing food prep in private home. Details call 871-7028.

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Portland, Maine 04102

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