

what's happening

Maine Medical Center
Portland, Maine 04102

April 29, 1987

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New law would loosen state control of care

The Maine Hospital Association has proposed a legislative solution to the problems of regulation by the Maine Health Care Finance Commission. The Omnibus Health Care Reform Act of 1987 (L.D. 958), now under consideration by the Maine Legislature, would abolish the Commission and restore control of Maine hospitals to their communities.

The legislation is sponsored by Senate President Charles P. Pray, and cosponsored by Senator Thomas R. Perkins, Representative Ruth S. Foster, and Representative Neil Rolde. It is designed to meet the objectives of cost containment, access to care, quality of care, and the financial viability of Maine's hospitals.

Specifically, the legislation:

- limits the rate of increase in the State's Medicaid program.
- eliminates discounts to payors.

LAW, page 2

Friends set to meet at MMC this Friday

The Friends of Maine Medical Center will hold their Annual Spring membership meeting this Friday, May 1, in the Dana Education Center at MMC. Coffee is served at 9:30 AM, and the meeting begins at 10 AM. Greetings from the hospital will be brought by Judith T. Stone, RN, Vice President for Nursing.

The program will be a panel discussion, "Who Will Manage Our Care?" It will examine the changes in the most fundamental aspects of the American health care system, including the traditional physician-patient relationship. Alternative Delivery Systems, including HMOs, PPOs, and others, are altering

FRIENDS, page 3



National Volunteer Week

April 26
- May 2



IT WASN'T THE SUNNY DAY that brought these people to the windows of MMC's operating room level last week. To see the attraction, see page 3... (A/V Photo)



WHEELCHAIR ATHLETE JIM KNAUB (left) was in town earlier this month, for a conference sponsored by the Department of Rehabilitation Medicine. Knaub is a spinal injury paraplegic who was an athlete before his injury and has become a nationally-recognized wheelchair athlete. He has competed in the Boston Marathon several times. He was at MMC, according to Chief of Rehabilitation Medicine B. Cairbre McCann, M.D., to discuss health and fitness for wheelchair users, with patients and staff. Those included wheelchair athlete Steve Carlton, right, a former MMC patient. (A/V Photo)

Alcoholism film series continues

The last two films in the Spring Alcoholism Film Series are open to all MMC employees as well as their families and friends. No advance registration is required.

FAMILY BUSINESS

Using dramatic flashbacks, Family Business shows how children learn certain behaviors while growing up in a chemically dependent family: denial, distortion of truth, suppression of feelings, depression, people-pleasing, and rescuing. The pain of the childhood experience and the relief of the "adult child's" passage beyond these early experiences are powerfully and sensitively portrayed. This film is extremely helpful in identifying the motivations, limitations, and potential for growth seen in many adult children of alcoholics. *Wednesday, April 29, Classroom 1, 4:30-5:30 PM.*

ANOTHER CHANCE

In this film Sharon Wegscheider-Cruse leads a family reconstruction therapy

session as a woman relives various family scenes from her childhood and adolescence. Fellow group members role play the parts of her parents, who were both alcoholics, and her brother, who became an alcoholic as he grew up. Recommended for professionals who are interested in understanding the demands and rewards of this type of therapy. *Wednesday, May 13, Classroom 1, 4:30-5:30 PM.*

More Marketplace

WANTED: Crankshaft to fit a Homelite 330 chainsaw. Call 839-4664 after 6 PM.

WANTED: Child care for 5 yr. old boy, 3-6 PM, Mon.-Fri. at our Western Prom home. Lots of activities planned; driver's license required. Excellent pay. Nonsmoker. Call Leslie Forbes at 879-0035 after 6 PM.

WANTED: Part-time babysitter in Portland or Windham area. Call 892-3115 before 2 PM.

FREE: Kittens and spayed young cats need a home(s). Call 773-4217 days.

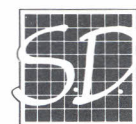
YARD SALE: 18 Kenilworth St., Portland. Sat., May 2, 8 AM-4 PM. Baby items, household goods, furniture, and lots more. Rain or shine.

LAW, from page one _____

- encourages competitive health insurance plans.
- requires hospital price and quality information to be made available to the public.
- guarantees hospital access for medically necessary treatment to all citizens, regardless of ability to pay.
- protects the viability of small and rural hospitals by establishing a loan and grant fund.
- allows local communities, as represented by hospital boards, to determine the quality and quantity of hospital services to be made available.

MMC President Edward C. Andrews, Jr., M.D., says "Maine Medical Center has tried over the past three years to work with the Commission and to make the system work. We're supporting the Maine Hospital Association legislation because we've concluded that the system is fundamentally flawed. The regulatory system as it exists," he says, "is hopelessly complex, unresponsive and inflexible, and poses a long-term threat to the survival of Maine hospitals."

The Maine Hospital Association developed the legislation to address what it calls the incorrect assumption that "health care costs can be controlled by regulation from Augusta without adversely affecting the quality of and access to care." The MHA points out that Maine is the most heavily regulated of the 11 remaining states that control hospital finances, and that in the four years of the Commission's existence, costs in non-regulated states have increased at the same rate as those in Maine. Other states, the MHA notes, have decided to abolish similar Commissions in favor of better methods of containing costs.



Continuing Education

Nursing Staff Development

- **Nursing Grand Rounds: "A Patient with Sleep Apnea,"**

Robert Pueringer, MD; Mary Palmer, RN and Marjorie Montigo, CRRT.

Sponsored by R7.

Tuesday, May 5

12 Noon-1 PM Classroom 2

(One contact hour requested from MSNA)

Organ donation can help make a miracle

April 26–May 2 is National Organ and Tissue Donor Awareness Week, and the Maine Transplant Program at MMC reminds us that by signing an organ donor card we can help “Make a Miracle.” Many thousands of people across the United States are waiting for organs and tissues for transplantation, to relieve their suffering, improve the quality of their lives, and in many cases to save their lives.

Maine now has a “routine inquiry” law, that is intended to help alleviate the shortage of organs for transplantation. Simply stated, the law requires that when a hospital patient is a candidate for donation (when they have suffered irreversible brain death), that their family be asked about organ donation. This has proven to be an effective, compassionate approach to donation, and a benefit to all concerned, including the family.

The Maine Transplant Program and the Kidney Foundation of Maine have jointly published a pamphlet on organ donation. If you would like a copy, or if you have questions, contact the Maine Transplant Program, 871-2000, or the Kidney Foundation of Maine, 772-7270.

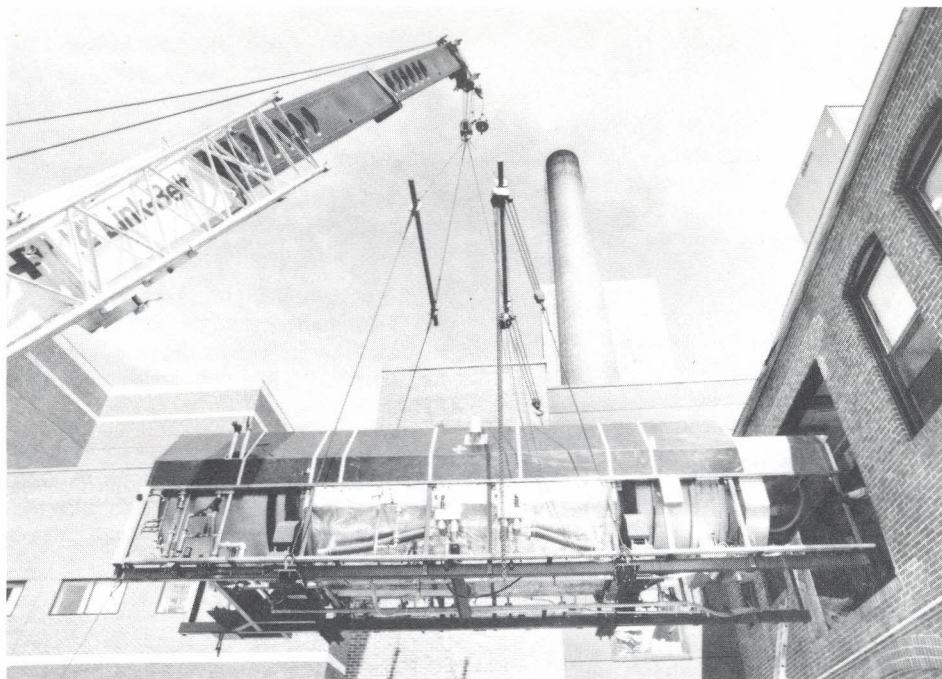
FRIENDS, from page one

the way in which medical care is managed and financed. Those changes will be examined in light of their impact on consumers, physicians, and hospitals.

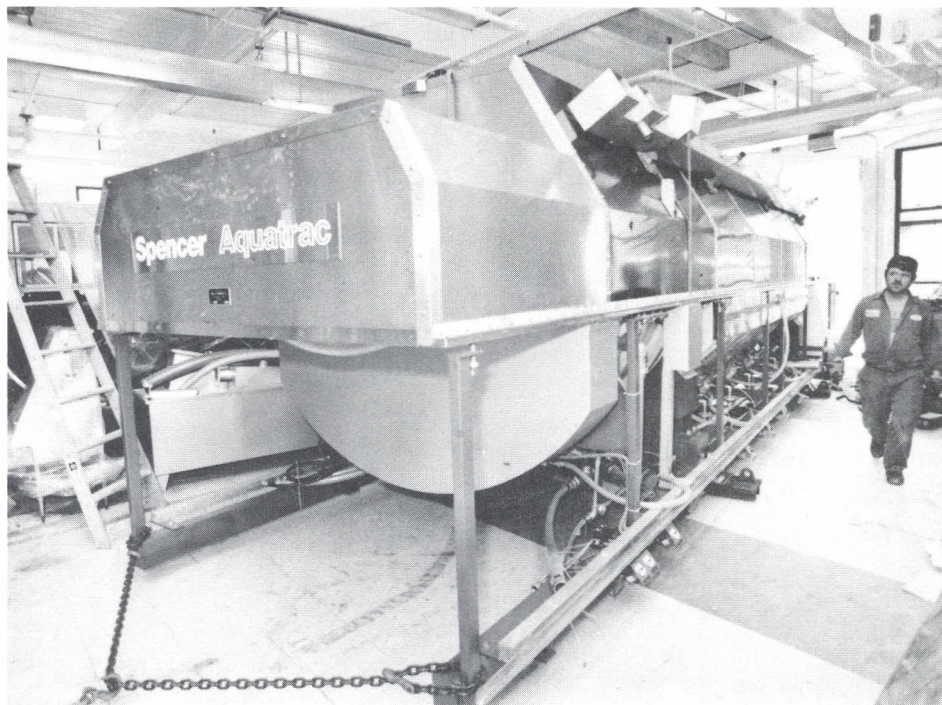
Panelists will be Donald L. McDowell, MMC Executive Vice President and Treasurer; Richard M. Wexler, M.D., a member of MMC’s Medical Staff, and Michael J. Strout, Director of Compensation and Benefits at Hannaford Bros., which now provides health care coverage to its employees through an alternative delivery system.

Among the questions to be addressed: Why are alternative systems being developed? What kinds are available, and how does the consumer choose one? Are members of an alternative system able to choose their own physicians? Who makes treatment decisions—the physician and patient, or the system? Do fixed fees and other components of managed care encourage better or worse care, more or less care?

The meeting is open to all Friends, their guests, and the general public.



AN ATTENTION-GETTER LAST WEEK was the installation—by crane, come-a-long, and effort of will—of the first major portion of MMC’s new laundry (above). A Spencer Aquatrac continuous batch washer (below) was brought into the linen services area the only possible way, through an opening in the wall. The washer, manufactured in Leatherhead, England, washes 110 pounds of linen every 3 minutes. It uses one gallon of water per pound as opposed to the nearly four gallons used by the old system, and instead of demanding hot water it takes cold water and heats it as needed.



New Employees

OUT PATIENT SERVICES LAB: Kelly J. Boyer

RADIOLOGY: Andrew Brooks, Cindy Dever

OPERATING ROOM: Patricia Carlisle, Jacqueline Lussier

NURSING: Lorraine Couture, Patricia Cuddy, Gina Fitzpatrick, Darlene Grover, Diane Jacobs, Judith A. Kirk, Elizabeth Prather, Janice L. Rote

Marketplace

FOR RENT: Deering St. Furnished 1 BR apt. with full KT, dining area, LR, large full bath. Much closet space; private entrance; antique and custom furniture. No pets. \$500/mo. plus electric. Sec. dep. and refs. Call 772-9605.

FOR RENT: Large 2 BR apt. in convenient Scarborough neighborhood 5 miles from MMC. Recently renovated. Avail. in May. \$525/mo. Call 883-9737.

FOR RENT: Cape Elizabeth. Furnished 3 BR home in quiet neighborhood. Avail. June 15–Sept. 1. \$3,000. Call 799-0314 eves.

FOR RENT: Portland waterfront condo at Chandler's Wharf. Skylighted 2 BR unit with loft, 2½ baths, all appliances, parking for two cars, fireplace, deck and beautiful view. Short-term lease (3 mo.–1 yr.). Reasonable price. Call Tom Juenemann at 871-1111 or 774-5405.

FOR RENT: 174 Woodlawn Ave., Portland. 4 room duplex with full bath, stove and refrig. Parking, full yard, dead-end street, near bus line. No smoking; no dogs or cats. Avail. May 1. \$535/mo. plus \$200 sec. dep. Call 797-6008.

FOR RENT: 2 BR Westbrook apt. Modern tiled bath with shower, LR, DR, large KT with new oak cabinets. Off-street parking. Avail. May 15. \$500/mo. plus sec. dep. Call 772-0389.

FOR RENT: 3 BR raised ranch in Gorham. Garage, W/D, large basement. Avail. Sept. or Oct. \$650/mo. includes all except heat. Call 839-2854.

FOR RENT: Biddeford. Attractive 1 BR apt. includes heat, utils., stove and refrig. \$375/mo. plus sec. dep. Call 774-6621.

FOR SALE: Falmouth Foreside; by owner. English Tudor Cape with stone wall and mature landscaping; 1 block from beach. 3 BR, 2 bath, master suite, study, LR, attached garage. \$172,000. Call 781-4740.

FOR RENT: Cape Elizabeth home. 3 BR, large family room, large yard, garage. Wood/coal stove included. Avail. June 1. \$800/mo. Call 799-7104.

FOR SALE: South Portland/Cape Elizabeth line. Free-standing condo with garage. 3 BR, 1 bath, LR, KT/dining area. \$92,000. Call 767-3438.

FOR SALE: South Portland; by owner. 3 BR (1 unfinished); LR, DR, KT, bath, 2 fireplaces, 2-car garage, storage shed. Excellent condition. \$98,500. Call 799-6740 or 772-7316.

ROOMMATE WANTED: West End. Female professional seeks same to share spacious brownstone apt. \$200/mo. plus utils. Nonsmoker; no pets. Avail. May 1. Call 761-2136 eves.

ROOMMATE WANTED: Sublet May 1–Oct. 1. 2 professional women looking for another to share a beautiful, large 3 BR apt. in West End. \$243/mo. including utils. Call 772-1726 and leave message.

ROOMMATE WANTED: M/F to share sunny 2 BR apt. in South Portland on bus route. \$250/mo. includes heat and parking. Call 772-8753 after 4:30 PM.

ROOMMATE WANTED: Off Ocean Ave. M/F professional to share 2 BR townhouse. Nonsmoker preferred. \$295/mo. plus ½ utils. Call 761-0840.

FOR SALE: 1986 Ford Escort Pony. 4-spd., rear defogger, AM/FM radio/cassette; clean. \$5,000. Call 655-3956.

FOR SALE: 1977 Chevy Caprice Classic. 69,000 miles, PS, PB, V-8, 2-dr., air conditioning, automatic transmission. \$1,000. Call 774-4201.

FOR SALE: 1978 Ford Mustang with high mileage. New tires and muffler. \$600. Call 883-5821.

FOR SALE: 1972 Z28 Camaro. Florida car; perfect condition. Black with original white striping; built-up 350 engine; loaded; 4-spd., low mileage. \$4,500. Call 871-2504.

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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FOR SALE: 1981 Toyota Tercel. 4-dr., sedan, 60,000 miles; very good condition. \$2,100 or best offer. Call 799-5061 and leave message.

FOR SALE: 1983 T-Bird. AC, FM stereo, CC, low mileage; excellent condition. \$5,500. Call 799-6719 after 6 PM.

FOR SALE: 1972 red FLH Harley. Full dresser; new rebuilt motor; extra chrome. Must see to appreciate. \$4,500. Call 871-2504.

FOR SALE: 14 ft. aluminum Mirocraft Deep Fisherman; 6 hp Evinrude (Fisherman) with cover and stand; Holsclaw tilt trailer; 2 fishing seats, 2 oars, 3 rod holders. \$1,250. Call 282-3834.

FOR SALE: 14 Ft. Sunfish. Hull in good condition; sail in fair condition, \$450. Also, Mad River canoe; sail rig has never been used; new \$895; will sell for \$595. Call 892-6664 after 5:30 PM.

FOR SALE: Bundy flute and clarinet; great school instruments. \$75/each. Call 883-5821.

FOR SALE: Brand new 12 ft. x 12½ ft. spot resistant gold carpet. Call 797-6515 eves.

FOR SALE: Resolute Vermont Casting woodstove; 2 yrs. old; excellent condition. Call Cindy at 839-2854.

FOR SALE: Beckwith piano in good condition. \$550. Call 883-5478.

FOR SALE: Selmer series 2000 wooden clarinet with silver keys. Semi-professional; only used 6 mos.; excellent condition. \$1,000 or best offer. Call Nancy at 926-3625.

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happening

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