

what's happening

Maine Medical Center
Portland, Maine 04102

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Changes may help MMC preserve its mission

Central to discussions about changing Maine Medical Center's corporate structure is the preservation of MMC's role as a nonprofit, community-based, acute care referral hospital. The Trustees' debate on restructuring asked two basic questions: given what the future will bring, can MMC continue to fulfill its mission as a free-standing hospital with its present organizational structure? and can the Medical Center limit its concerns to what happens within the walls of the hospital?

For the answer, we must look at what is happening to the health care system in America. The established order is changing, and the environment today is one of transformation. Emphasis is moving from inpatient care to outpatient care, from the traditional doctor/patient relationship to the "managed care" of health maintenance organizations and preferred provider organizations.

Employers, insurers, and government payors are demanding a greater role in the health care system, negotiating for lower prices and tougher utilization policies. The free-standing, nonprofit community hospital is being challenged by for-profit hospital chains and private outpatient facilities. These new players frequently target the most profitable sectors of health care, leaving high-overhead services and indigent care to the non-profit hospitals.

MMC and similar nonprofit acute care hospitals are committed to continuing to provide a full range of services to all who seek them, and to do so they must maintain their financial viability. It is becoming evident that those hospitals that continue as they are will see their financial base erode as they become the lower tier of a two-tier system. This is

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EMPLOYEES COMING AND GOING from the Parking Ramp cast long shadows on an early February afternoon. For more, but less pleasing winter sights, see inside . . . (A/V Photo)

Higgins named Chief of Emergency Medicine

George L. Higgins, III, M.D., has been named Chief of Emergency Medicine at MMC. He has served as Acting Chief for several months, and his appointment follows an extensive search.

"We feel very good about having George on board," says Search Committee Chairman Donald Abbott, M.D. "His qualifications are excellent, he trained here at MMC, and after a nationwide search we found that he was the best candidate for the job."

Dr. Higgins is a graduate of Colby College and Tufts University School of Medicine. He served an internship in Internal

Medicine at MMC, and was Chief Resident in Internal Medicine.

He joined the Emergency Department Attending Staff at MMC in 1981, following four years of private practice in Scarborough.

Dr. Higgins is a Diplomate of the American Board of Internal Medicine and the American College of Emergency Medicine. He is President-Elect of the Maine Chapter, American College of Emergency Physicians, and a member of the Maine Committee on Trauma, American College of Surgeons. He is also a Clinical Assistant Professor of Surgery at the University of Vermont Medical School.

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already occurring in some parts of the United States.

The alternative is to become active participants in the changing health care system. If services like outpatient diagnostic and treatment centers are going to be offered outside the hospital's walls, and if they are financially viable, a hospital or a venture involving the hospital could offer them. If there is a market for managed care plans like Health Maintenance Organizations and Preferred Provider Organizations, a hospital or affiliated group could offer them.

By meeting the demand for such services, the hospital could preserve its financial base, continue to provide indigent care, and ensure that the quality of the services is up to the traditionally high standards set by the hospital. Financial viability and the preservation of the hospital's mission are intertwined.

MMC's Board of Trustees this past year adopted a new mission statement that restates the hospital's century-old commitment to the nonprofit philosophy. The most difficult part of any restructuring proposal, and the area of most concern to the Trustees, would be ensuring that the hospital's mission remained foremost.

Accordingly, guidelines for developing a detailed proposal include provisions that the holding company would be nonprofit, and operate exclusively for the benefit of the Medical Center and its affiliated organizations. The trustees of the holding company would simultaneously serve as trustees of the Medical Center, and the Chairman of the Board and the Chief Executive Officer would be the same. The mission statement of the holding company would limit the scope of its interests to health-related activities that support the mission of the Medical Center.

AACN presents its February program

The Southern Maine Chapter of the American Association of Critical Care Nurses will present a program on Immuno Deficiency Syndrome at its February meeting. The program will be presented by Michael Bach, M.D., an internist and infectious disease specialist.

The program is Wednesday, February 11, 7-8 PM, in Classroom 7 at MMC. A \$3 guest fee will be charged.



THE FOURTH SNOWIEST JANUARY in over 100 years of recordkeeping left Portland and MMC with a dramatically different landscape and more than a few inconveniences. (A/V Photo)





AT ITS FEBRUARY MEETING, the Maine Medical Center Board of Trustees recognized and honored the leaders of the 1986 MMC Annual Fund, which exceeded its \$240,000 goal by more than \$21,000 for a record-breaking total of \$261,988. Board Chairman Mrs. Herbert S. Holmes, Jr., presented engraved pewter plates to MMC Corporator and 1986 Annual Fund Chairman James A. Willey, Jr. (above), and to John W. Barrett, M.D. (below), 1986 Annual Fund Vice Chairman, who led the Medical Staff subcommittee. (A/V Photos)



New Employees

NURSING: Lora J. Anderson, Janice M. Davis, Barrie A. Mitchell, Robyn D. Vance, Marie A. Weston

MEDICAL TECH. PROGRAM: Barry J. Corriveau

FOOD SERVICES: Daniel P. Foster

MEDICAL REHABILITATION: Thomas G. Lafavore

DIAGNOSTIC RADIOLOGY: James R. Leeman

PERSONNEL: Katharine J. Lessard, Judith E. Tibbetts

CENTRAL SERVICES: Dennis P. Noel

CENTRAL SUPPLY: Florence S. Sargent

Mayo Estate Planning Seminars returning

The Maine Medical Center Deferred Giving Committee announces the eighteenth series of estate planning seminars by Terry D. Mayo. They are scheduled on two Tuesday afternoons, March 10 and 17, from 1:30 to 4:30 PM. The seminars are offered as a public service, at no charge, but reservations for the limited-seating tickets must be made in advance, on a first-come, first-served basis. Those wishing further information or reservations should call the MMC Development Office, 871-2669.

Terry D. Mayo is an estate planning expert who writes and consults widely and who lectures from Maine to California. His presentations cover many aspects of estate planning: terminology, wills, bequests, trusts, tax implications and tax savings, the use of professionals, and the conservation of assets. His audiences regularly include men and women of all ages and callings, and many professionals regularly participate.

Board approves staff appointments, changes

The Maine Medical Center Board of Trustees at its January meeting approved the following new appointment to the Medical Staff.

Robert W. Chagrasulis, M.D., Courtesy Staff without Admitting Privileges, Division of General Surgery, Department of Surgery.

Andrew W. Johnson, M.D., Associate Attending Staff, Department of Pediatrics.

Stephen D. Rioux, M.D., Associate Attending Staff, Department of Pediatrics.

The Board also approved a promotion from Consulting to Attending Staff to Lyman A. Page, M.D. Director, Division of Pediatric Endocrinology, Department of Pediatrics.

Please Note

The Juvenile Diabetes Foundation, Portland Chapter, will meet Tuesday, February 10, at 7 PM in Classroom 1 at Maine Medical Center. The chapter is seeking input for setting up its proposed budget and schedule of events for the rest of the year.

Marketplace

FOR RENT: West End. Completely renovated 1 BR apt. Laundry facilities, parking. \$375/mo. plus utils. Call 761-4512.

FOR RENT: Falmouth. Spacious furnished room with own entrance and bath. \$65/wk. Call 781-4775 eves.

FOR RENT: Cape Elizabeth. 2 BR half duplex with LR, DR, new KT, den, and bath. Private yard. \$650/mo. plus utils., refs., and lease. Call 799-1401.

FOR RENT: Cumberland Foreside. Room with kitchenette and separate entrance. Call 781-4455.

FOR RENT: Small room in nice South Portland neighborhood with young family. W/D, parking. Refs. required. \$50/wk. Call 772-6397 or 772-2350.

FOR RENT: 1 BR apt. in nice neighborhood on North St., Munjoy Hill. New KT, parking, yard. \$425/mo. includes heat. Call 839-3824.

FOR RENT: Westbrook. Newly remodeled 3 BR apt. with parking included. \$450/mo. plus utils. and sec. dep. Call 854-1678.

FOR RENT: Neal St. 3 beautiful 1½-3 BR luxury apts. Avail. in March. \$550-\$800/mo. Call 774-4732.

FOR RENT: Old Port. 2 BR apt. with off-street parking. \$550/mo. includes heat and hot water. Call 767-5016 or 866-2516.

FOR RENT: Room and bath with board in Falmouth Foreside in return for a few services and moderate rent. Car essential. Could be an excellent arrangement for the right person. Call 781-3163.

ROOMMATE WANTED: Female professional looking for same to share spacious apt. on Eastern Prom. Off-street parking. Nonsmoker. Very reasonable. Call 774-4793 after 6 PM weekdays or anytime weekends.

FOR RENT: Woodfords area. 1 BR apt. with stove/refrig. \$425/mo. with heat, utils., parking included. Sec. dep. and lease. Call 774-6621.

FOR SALE: 5-spd. 1983 black Pontiac Firebird SE. \$6,000 or best offer. Call 883-9452 or 883-5528.

FOR SALE: Auto. 1975 Ford Maverick. Currently in use. Inspection due in April. \$300. Call 773-3041.

FOR SALE: Black 1985 Dodge Caravan. 2.2 liter engine, 5-spd., AM/FM stereo cassette system, roof-rack, Ziebart, 34,000 miles. \$7,500. Call 934-5198 after 5 PM.

FOR SALE: 1978 Ford Granada with low mileage. Good condition. \$1,900 or best offer. Call 854-1678.

FOR SALE: Volvo station wagon. Your choice of 1974 or 1975. Call Dr. Augur at 773-7964.

FOR SALE: Apt. size washer in excellent condition. Can hook up to sink or as regular washer. \$300. Call 854-1678.

FOR SALE: Couch and 2 matching chairs in earth-tone plaid Herculon covering. Excellent condition. \$500. Call 767-5857 after 5 PM.

FOR SALE: Couch and 2 matching chairs. Cobra 40 channel base CB; hardly used. Call 892-6351.

FOR SALE: Panasonic microwave oven, 2'2" x 1'5"; excellent condition. \$65. Call 799-4288.

WANTED: Twin bed frames plus headboards in good condition. Call 767-3965 eves.

WANTED: Babysitter for 6 yr. old in North Deering area. Needed for before and after kindergarten. Must be on school bus line. Call Celeste at 871-2451 days; 797-7454 eves.

FREE: Puppies. Mother pure Golden Retriever; father pure Black Lab. 4 golds; 4 blacks. Call 829-6609 after 5:30 PM.

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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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FREE: 2 medium size dogs. Female Black Lab mix; male Collie mix. Call 799-1389.

FREE: To good home. Adorable 7 mo. old black cat with white mustache and paws. Call 774-2741.

Attitude survey meetings continue

Meetings for the Employee Attitude Survey wrap up today and tomorrow. The schedule is:

WEDNESDAY February 11

7-8 AM	Auditorium
8:30-9:30 AM	Classroom 4
10:30-11:30 AM	Classroom 3
1:30-2:30 PM	Auditorium
2:30-3:30 PM	Auditorium
4:45-5:45 PM	Auditorium

THURSDAY February 12

7-8 AM	Auditorium
10:30-11:30 AM	Auditorium
1:30-2:30 PM	Auditorium
2:30-3:30 PM	Auditorium
4:45-5:45 PM	Classroom 7
10-11 PM	Auditorium

Employees should allow about one hour for the survey, and prompt arrival is essential.

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