

what's happening

Maine Medical Center
Portland, Maine 04102

Vol. 15, No. 23

January 4, 1984

THE NEW FAMILY PRACTICE UNIT is nearing completion, just across the street from the original unit on Munjoy Hill. Workers are at the finishing-up stage and the Family Practice staff is more than ready to move in to their new quarters located in the garden/basement level of the North School at Congress and India Streets. The approach to the Unit will be from India Street (below). The interior has been designed to provide optimum convenience, comfort and efficiency for staff and patients alike. Ann McDonough, RN, Head Nurse, and Charles M. Belisle, M.D., Assistant Chief of Family Practice, check floor plans for a nursing station (right.) Moving day is scheduled for Mid-January. (A/V Photos)



How about sharing the gift of giving?

If friends are for sharing enjoyable things with, and if giving blood is an enjoyable thing to do, doesn't it make sense to bring a friend along next time you give blood? That's the question the MMC Blood Donor Recruitment Committee is asking as the next blood drive approaches January 13.

The Committee, chaired by William Gousse, III, Pharmacy, is making a personal appeal to all previous blood donors to "bring a friend" with them on January 13. If everyone could bring just one friend, the amount of blood collected could double.

The drive is set for Friday, January 13, 7:30 AM–4:30 PM, in Classrooms 3&4. So bring along a friend, and share the giving of the Gift of Life.

Cross country clinic coming, snow or not

Learn to ski indoors? That's right, Wednesday, January 11, in Classrooms 3&4. Michael Perry of L.L. Bean, Inc. will be at MMC that day, at the invitation of *HealthStyles*, the MMC Employee Health Promotion Program. He will show a 15-minute film entitled, "If You Can Walk," and will talk about equipment, technique, and trails.

The clinic is set for 12 Noon–1:00 PM. If you'd like to attend, please call Mary Eileen Kiniry at x2974. The instructor would like at least sixty people, so calling ahead would be very helpful.

JCAH team to visit MMC next week

A Joint Commission on the Accreditation of Hospitals survey team will visit Maine Medical Center on January 9, 10, 11 and 12. The purpose of the survey is to determine whether the hospital is in compliance with nationally established standards of quality and performance in patient care and will therefore retain its accreditation.

MMC has been JCAH accredited since 1954. Seeking accreditation is a voluntary process reflecting a hospital's commitment to continuing evaluation and improvement of its performance in all areas of patient care. The JCAH is a private, non-profit organization created by and made up of health care professionals. Formed in 1951, it is governed by representatives of the



THE EMPLOYEE ACTIVITY COMMITTEE'S annual Christmas basket project was a grand success this year, despite the fact that some despicable Scrooge stole one of the collection jars from the Cafeteria. Scrooge was foiled by the Spirit of Christmas, however. The EAC made up the estimated \$75 loss and then some, by kicking in \$200 on top of the \$150 collected. Then, as word of the foul deed got around, anonymous donors contributed \$80 to the EAC (\$75 of it in one contribution) in hopes of making up the organization's loss. The results: six full Christmas dinner baskets for needy MMC employee families, plus one fruit basket with a \$20 grocery gift certificate for a needy MMC employee couple. Shown above with turkey and trimmings are, from left, EAC members Bev Cookson, Julie Gillies, and Debi Roy. The EAC thanks all who gave — and gave and gave — for their generosity. (A/V Photo)

American College of Surgeons, the American College of Physicians, the American Dental Association and the American Medical Association.

The idea of voluntary accreditation — recognition of the need to evaluate and improve the care of hospital patients — dates back to 1913 when the American College of Surgeons organized a program of standardization. JCAH is an outgrowth of that organization and currently has accreditation programs for hospitals, long-term care facilities, psychiatric facilities and ambulatory health care programs.

The JCAH survey team will include a physician, a nurse and a hospital administrator. They will apply a check list of standards to as many as 24 areas in some departments. After surveying and evaluating MMC, the team will consult with personnel in all departments surveyed.

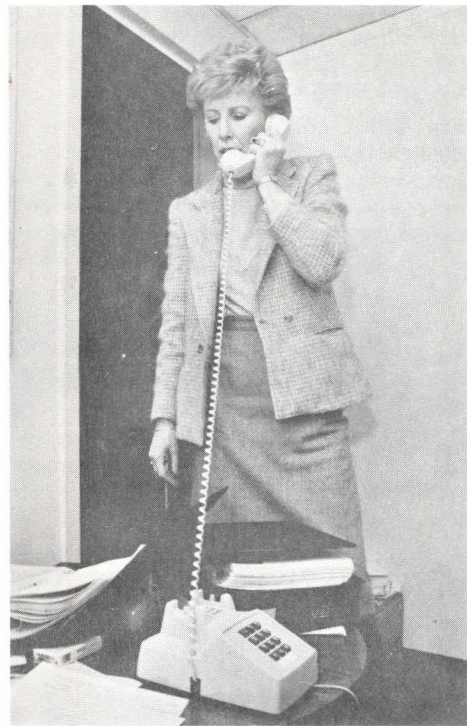
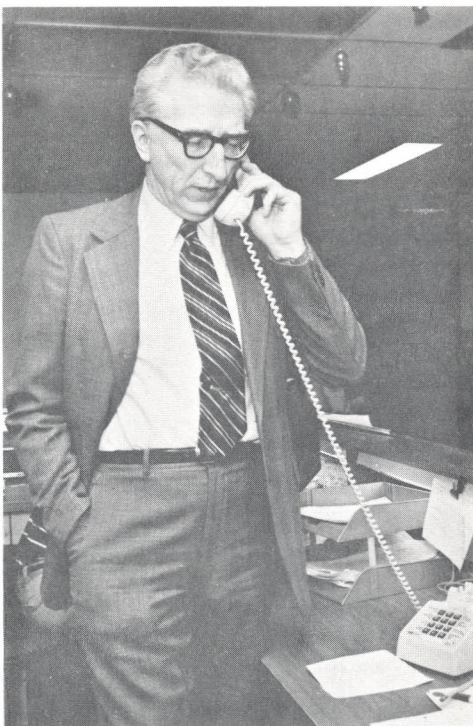
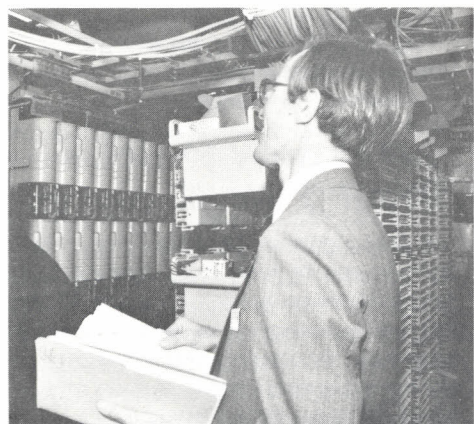
A perfect compliance score is rarely possible; hospitals must comply substantially, however, and indicate a willingness to work toward compliance in all areas.

Weight loss classes start this month

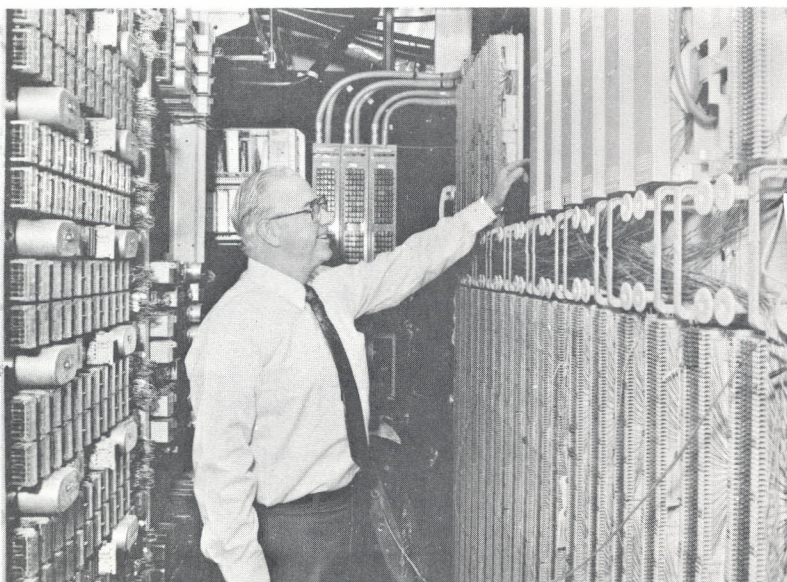
Healthstyles presents an in-house weight control program just in time — classes begin next week! Barbara Footer, MS, a registered dietician and consultant, will conduct the eight one-hour sessions. At the first session, participants will set individual weight loss goals, and following sessions will discuss nutrition and exercise plans.

The \$40 fee covers some of the costs of the program. Participants who meet their weight loss goals will be eligible for a 50% rebate when they complete the program.

Registrations are on a first-come, first-served basis, and there are three schedule options: Mondays, 1:00–2:00 PM, January 9–February 27; Tuesdays, 7:30–8:30 AM, January 10–February 28; or Wednesdays, 5:00–6:00 PM, January 11–February 29. To register, call Lois Scott-Hadley in the Office of Training and Development, x2824 or x2106. Enrollment in each schedule is limited to 15.



IT'S SHAKEDOWN TIME for the new hospital telephone system, and for all of us who use the phones. And day by day, in every way, we're getting better and better. Clockwise from left: Tom Dempsey, project manager for New England Telephone checks a cutover detail in the MMC switchroom; Security Site Supervisor Kay Pellechia discovers to her delight there's someone on the other end of her phone; Associate Vice President Tad Runge initiates programming changes; Chief Operator Cindy Rendall, who made numerous rounds before, during and after cutover, checks with R4 Unit Clerk Carole Brett; Operator Betty Cloutier handles calls on the new system; a consultant for Northern Telecom, providers of the new system, covers the trouble phone; and Douglass C. Pennoyer, M.D., answers a page — quite successfully. Since the December 16 cutover, most of us have conquered our fear of the phones, and the trouble line is less busy. It'll still be a while before second nature sets in for some of us. Until then: relax, give the phones and yourself a chance to work smoothly. (A/V Photos)



Marketplace

FOR RENT: Room and board in quiet home in So. Portland. Over 65 yrs. old preferred. Call 767-4483.

FOR RENT: Very small, brand new 1 BR apt. \$285/mo. plus util. Off-street parking included. Call 767-4257.

FOR RENT: Unfurn. or furn. 4 room heated apt. Right next to MMC. Avail. now. Stove and refrig. included. adults only. Sec. dep. and lease. \$350/mo. Call 797-6687.

FOR RENT: Small (easy to heat), 1 BR, 3rd floor apt. avail. now. Skylights. Walk to MMC. \$250/mo. plus heat and util. Call 766-2385 after 5PM. Ideal for single professional.

ROOMMATE WANTED: Young professional woman looking for roommate to share home on Little Sebago Lake in Windham. Use of garage, garden, laundry, yard, lake, etc. Non-smokers only. \$250/mo. Call Jean at 892-5480 or 775-3491.

FOR SALE: 1976 Datsun 280Z metallic blue, 86,000 miles. New Firestone radials, new battery, new voltage regulator, alternator and wires; AM/FM radio; excellent condition interior; very good running condition. \$3,500 or best offer. Call 655-4240.

FOR SALE: 1974 automatic Ford Pinto Wagon. Excellent running condition. Good car in the snow. \$400. Call 767-4227 after 5 PM.

FOR SALE: Goodyear all-weather radial tires: 2 snow tires—LR78-15—mounted with rims. \$30 for rims and \$75 for the tires. Call 773-1173 or x2843.

FOR SALE: 4x11x15 on- and off-road tires, 8" white-spoked rims, all mounted. Low mileage. Call 839-4585.

FOR SALE: 2 tires: Sears radial, P215/75-R14. Mounted on rims, asking \$70. Call 799-1951, keep trying.

FOR SALE: Pa's hardwood for sale. \$80 per cord, 16"x24" cut split and delivered. \$65 per cord, 4' lengths. Within a 20 mi. radius from wood lot. All guaranteed hardwood, written receipts, references if needed. Call 892-6351 or 655-7745.

Nursing Continuing Education Program

- *Identification and Management of Oncologic Emergencies*, Christopher Seitz, M.D.

Wednesday, January 11, 1984
4-5 PM Classroom R1
(1 CERP requested)

'Tis the season to know the storm policy

The MMC Personnel Department has issued a Storm Policy governing pay practices during periods of weather severe enough to create unsafe conditions going to or from work:

- The Executive Vice President will be responsible for declaring use of the Storm Policy.
- Employees are expected to make every reasonable effort to report to work as usual since patient care requirements continue despite weather conditions.
- Employees who are unable to get to work due to the storm should notify their supervisor as far in advance as possible. When such absences occur, employees may take an excused absence without pay or use accrued vacation or holiday time with approval from their supervisor.
- Employees who arrive late, due to the storm conditions, will be paid for their full regularly-scheduled shift.
- Employees who are sent home, due to storm conditions, by the department head, will be paid for their full regularly-scheduled shift.

Normal MMC pay practices apply to those employees asked to work beyond their scheduled shift to cover for late employees, just as for any other reason.

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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. Barbara Burns, Editor.

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It is easy to get a second car stickered

Everyone should have their new parking stickers by now, and by now those with two vehicles have noticed they received only one sticker. In order to get better control of the number of stickers out, Parking sent only one to each parker. If you want a second sticker for a second vehicle, fill out and return the form that was enclosed with the first sticker to the Parking Office. The form is also used to change from payroll deduction to hourly or vice versa.

And remember, stickers must be in place on the lower left corner of your windshield by January 31, 1984.

New Employees

HOUSEKEEPING: Nasrullah Afridi,
Joy L. Malier, Cheryl Pettengill
POISON CONTROL: Deborah A. Hall
LINEN PROCESSING: Ca Huynh
CAFETERIA: Noreene A. Ireland
ENDOCRINE: Joan E. Jones
DATA MANAGEMENT: Alan T. Kiernan
FOOD SERVICE: Doreen E. Lampron

Morphology

RICKOVER'S LAW

If the Russians would send a man to Hell, we'd say, "We can't let them beat us to it."

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