

what's happening

Maine Medical Center
Portland, Maine 04102

Vol. 15, No. 10

MMC announces 1984 budget and rates

Maine Medical Center's rates increased an average of 6.3% at the beginning of its 1984 fiscal year on October 1, 1983. The hospital's expenses for 1984 are projected to rise 7.61%, and the difference due to the lower rate increase will be absorbed by lowering the medical center's operating margin.

The semi-private daily room rate at MMC will rise from \$212 to \$225, an increase of 6%. The day rate for the Special Care Unit will be \$729, up 5% from \$694. The average increase for all day rates will be 6%, and the average increase in ancillary charges will be 6.3%.

According to Executive Vice President and Treasurer Donald L. McDowell, most of the 7.61% increase in the 1984 budget is due to inflation. "A little over 3% of the increase," he explains, "is for inflation in the goods and services the hospital purchases. For instance, our pharmacy costs are expected to rise 9% over the next year, oxygen 5%, and fruits, vegetables, and meat over 9%.

"Over two-thirds of the hospital's budget is for people," McDowell says, "and almost 4% of the 1984 budget increase is due to increases in wages and benefits for our employees. We keep our compensation package competitive, so we can attract and keep the very best people.

RATES, page 2

Kresge makes \$200,000 challenge

Vincent B. Welch, Esq., Chairman of the Maine Medical Center Capital Campaign, announced receipt of a \$200,000 challenge grant from The Kresge Foundation. The grant was committed to the hospital's \$2.2 million education building, the Charles A. Dana Health Education Center. Mr. Welch said the grant is payable provided the balance of the funds required for construction of the education building have been raised by February 15, 1984. He noted \$1,500,000 has already been committed for this project and was confident the balance will be forthcoming long before the February deadline.

"We are truly grateful for this fine support from The Kresge Foundation. The educational facility is sorely needed, and their generous grant assures MMC and the Community that this need will be met," Mr. Welch said. "It certainly brings the \$2.2 million goal within range. A challenge grant always generates donor support."

Edward C. Andrews, Jr., M.D., President of Maine Medical Center, expressed his pleasure on receipt of the grant. "It is always a source of encouragement to receive such expressions of interest in the activities of MMC by a national organization as evidenced by The Kresge Foundation's grant. It reflects on the hospital's endeavors to provide and maintain a medical care program and accompanying ancillary services of the highest standards and finest quality for the Greater Portland area and the state of Maine," he said.

Both Mr. Welch and Dr. Andrews commended The Kresge Foundation and its Board for their generous grant to MMC. The hospital was one of 133 recipients nationwide to benefit from the Foundation's funding. After considering 1,316 proposals in 1983, The Kresge Foundation of Troy, Michigan

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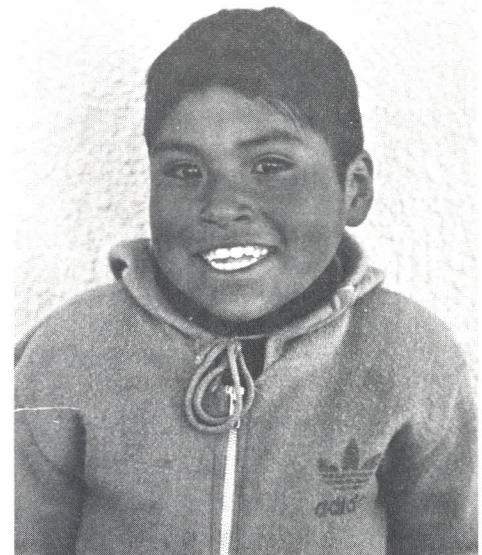
October 5, 1983

Housekeeping helps out with compassion

If you want to know what good Maine's returnable bottle bill is, just ask David Aruquipa of Seguenca, Bolivia. David is benefitting from the bottle deposit money collected from the soda machine in MMC's Housekeeping Department, as a sponsored child through the Compassion International Seguenca Family Helper Plan. The contribution is just \$21 a month, but in a country where the average per capita annual income is only \$299, it can make quite a difference.

According to Director of Housekeeping Michael Swan, the sponsorship began with a decision to do something worthwhile with the returnable bottles accumulating near the department's soda machine. The individual "donations" to the fund accrue a painless nickel at a time, but add up over the course of a month. Swan says a few people in the department had had contact with organizations like Compassion International, and this particular

DAVID, page 2



DAVID ARUQUIPA

All MMC employees
are invited for
POPCORN & PICTURES

Continuous Screenings
of the

United Way Story
11 AM to 1 PM

Wednesday, October 6
Cafe. Conf. Room A

DAVID, from page one — group's reputation was good.

The small contribution from Maine has a big impact on David's life in Bolivia. Seguenca is a poor farming community on the high plains, or *altiplano*, near La Paz, in a country where the literacy rate is 40% and the life expectancy is 47 years. Compassion International provides help with clothing, food, school supplies, and other supplemental care.

Swan says the level of interest in David is very high. Department members write many letters to David, and David's return letters are translated from the Spanish for them. Housekeepers working on units throughout the hospital are quick to collect any returnables destined for the trash, to bring back and contribute to the fund. They are allowed under the program to also send small cash gifts directly to David, for birthdays and Christmas (cash, because the import duty on any other incoming gift would cost more than the gift).

There are many benefits to all parties in this kind of arrangement, Swan says, but the bottom line is simple: "it allows us to help someone." And from half a hemisphere away, David Aruquipa says "thanks."

RATES, from page one —

"About half a percent of the increase," he continues, "is for projected increases in the volume of services provided, and a little more than half a percent is for new programs and positions. Budget increases were mitigated somewhat by a .77% decrease due to \$708,000 in savings from operating efficiencies."

The 1984 budget includes an allowance of \$34,758,127 for free service and uncollectibles. \$26,047,814 is for discounts taken by third-party payors Medicare, Medicaid, and Blue Cross, and \$8,710,313 is for charity care and bad debts. All told, MMC expects to receive \$105,566,012 and spend for operations \$100,506,541. The difference of \$5,059,471 is to provide funds for major equipment purchases, repayment of debt, and working capital. As a non-profit corporation, MMC does not make a profit from operations, but must have an excess of revenue over expenditures to provide for equipment and debt service.

Other day rate increases include: Private — \$241 to \$255; Burn Unit — \$715 to \$758; Psychiatric — \$284 to \$301; Cardiac Care — \$478 to \$526; Neonatal Intensive Care Unit — \$561 to \$589; Nursery — \$115 to \$123.



SCHOOL OF SURGICAL TECHNOLOGY held its Class of Fall 1983 graduation exercises September 9. Graduating from the MMC program were (front left to right): Kathleen E. Diaz, Lee Ann McGonagle, Catherine M. Moeller and Shirley M. Beeler. (Back row): Charlene J. Soucy, Cathy M. Surran, Shirley P. Gauthier, Rene S. Roberts, and Jacqueline A. Lopez. (A/V Photo)

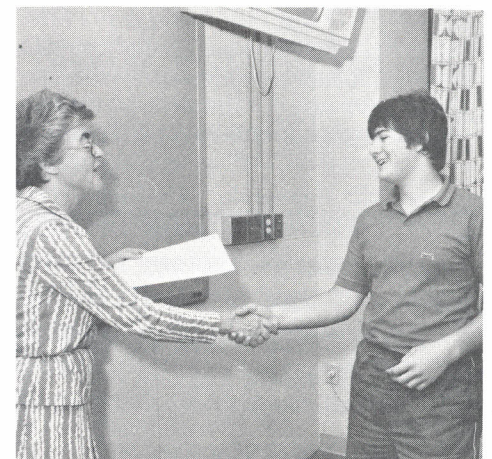
Nursing Continuing Education Program

- *Medical Nursing Grand Rounds:*
"Nursing Care of the Terminally Ill Patient,"
P1A Nursing Staff.

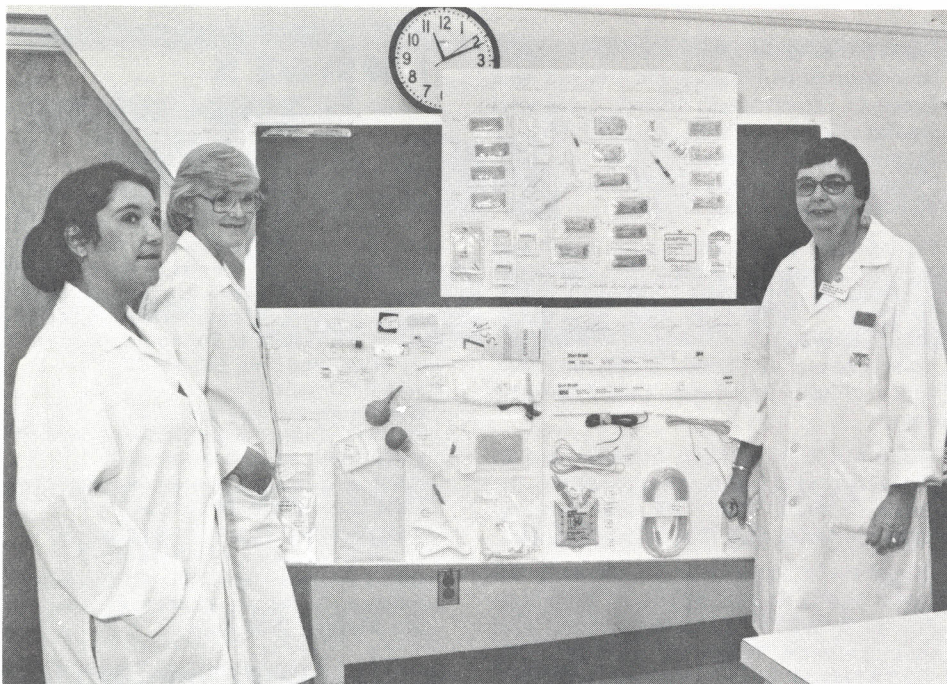
Wednesday, October 12
4:00-5:00 PM Classroom 2

About People

The Board of Governors of the American College of Microbiology recently elected Robert F. Ritchie, M.D., Medical Director of the Foundation for Blood Research and member of MMC's Medical Staff, to Fellowship in the organization.



AMONG THE 70 JUNIOR VOLUNTEERS formally thanked September 22 by Director of Volunteer Services Audrey Gough for their summer of service to MMC were Michelle Britton and Tim O'Neill. The occasion was a special party for the junior volunteers and their parents. (A/V Photo)



THE WORD IS SPREADING about the ever-increasing importance of cost containment in health care. As a direct result of a presentation by MMC Executive Vice President and Treasurer Don McDowell — one of several he has given various departments on request — some OR staffers developed a way to raise the cost consciousness of their co-workers. Pat Esposito, RN, OR Staff Nurse (left), Cathie Sumpter, RN, Assistant Supervisor (center), and Nancy Wynne, RN, MS, Education Coordinator, made three displays showing various OR supply items and their cost. The effort, which the three say is working, aims to remind OR staff to empty gown pockets, keep inventory in its place, and open a packaged item only if definitely needed. The message is being received by nursing, medical, and support staffs in the OR that, for instance, a little foil packet that doesn't look like much may contain three or four dollars worth of suture. (A/V Photo)

CAMPAIGN, from page one

has awarded new grant commitments totaling \$33,025,000 to these 133 charitable organizations in 36 states and the District of Columbia. The majority of these grants were to projects involving construction or renovation of facilities. Most grant recipients had raised initial funds toward their respective projects before requesting Foundation assistance. Grants were then authorized on a challenge basis, requiring the raising of the remaining funds, thereby insuring completion of the projects.

The Kresge Foundation was created by the personal gifts of Sebastian S. Kresge. Foundation grants are made to institutions in the areas of higher education, health care and related services, the arts and humanities, social services, science, conservation, religion, and public policy.

Thanks...

I would like to give my thanks and a special goodbye to the ladies and my friends who work in the MMC Annex. For two months I worked in close quarters with the most pleasant, patient, and sincere group of ladies who made my summer job a most memorable one. I believe that these ladies should be commended on the excellent "behind the scenes" job they do each day to keep MMC Maine's finest hospital. Hang in there and God Bless You: Barbara, Carrie, Charlotte, Judy, Mary and Theresa. Plus, a special thanks from the Annex and me to our loyal volunteer, Mrs. Berube.

*Your Friend,
Ronda Cushman
"the little one"*

United Way: it keeps on working

The United Way campaign is off and running in MMC and in the community. Our hospital volunteers are working to educate us all to the importance of our help in maintaining United Way agencies. And while the campaign peaks for the next month, those agencies just keep working at what they do best, 12 months a year. Some examples:

Ingraham Volunteers is a twenty-four hour information and referral service offering counseling, advocacy and emergency material assistance. In addition, there is a "HOTLINE" for the deaf to give information and make referrals. There is no fee for services and anyone can call at any time.

The "HOTLINE" receives approximately 800 calls per month from about 550 callers. But a person does not have to be in a crisis situation to make use of the "HOTLINE." In fact, many of these callers are requesting information about where to locate a particular human service in Cumberland County, and the Ingraham Volunteer is able to refer that person to the appropriate human service agency.

The Maine Poison Control Center is located in the emergency department at the Maine Medical Center, and provides available service 24 hours a day when you want to ask: "Is this product poisonous or harmful?"

It costs only \$9.50 to evaluate and manage most poisonings that are reported to the Poison Control Center. Compared to a \$65 emergency room admission, this expense is small. Your United Way dollars make it possible for seventy to eighty percent of poisonings to be managed within the home, where a telephone call to the Poison Control Center provides immediate first aid counseling.

Holy Innocents Home Care Services is a homemaker-home health aide service available to all residents of York and Cumberland Counties. Services are provided on a long-term or temporary basis to families, elderly, disabled, and handicapped individuals during a crisis, chronic illness, or temporary disability. Homemaker services enable the elderly to remain in their own homes, or assist mental health patients in becoming self-sufficient, productive members of the community. And if a mother goes to the hospital for an operation, home care service is provided for young children in the security of their own home.

The entire community is served, regardless of income.

BLOOD DRIVE RESULTS

157 presented; **134** gave, including **9** first-timers

Marketplace

FOR RENT: 5 room apt. with 2 BRs. 2 blocks from Westgate shopping center. 1st floor. \$375/mo. plus util. Call 774-8306.

FOR RENT: 64 Eastern Prom. 3 room, large porch, water view. \$375/mo. plus heat and util. Sec. dep. Call 772-3610 after 5 PM.

FOR RENT: Cape Elizabeth. 3 rooms plus kitchenette and bath. All util. Furnished. 2nd floor. Parking included. Call 799-7106.

FOR RENT: Nov. 1-mid April, 2 BR furnished home with attached garage in Scarborough. Spacious yard, electric heat. \$300/mo. plus util. Call 883-6844.

FOR RENT: 3 BR home at 20 Bay Road in So. Portland. On water. LR, DR, family room, porch. \$800/mo includes heat and util. Sec. Dep., no pets. Avail. Nov. 1 - May 1. Call 799-0166 or 772-4909.

FOR RENT: Small, furnished efficiency apartment on Pine Point Beach, available for winter. Color TV. Sec. Dep., refs. \$70/week. Call 883-5711.

FOR SALE: 1979 Rabbit diesel, good radials, AM/FM., \$2,200. Call 892-5036 after 6 PM.

FOR SALE: 1978 4-wheel drive Jeep Cherokee. Body and working parts in excellent condition. 74,000 miles. \$4,000. Call Radiology from 7 AM - 6 PM, Ex. 2571 or 829-3666 evenings.

FOR SALE: 1976 Toyota Corona wagon. Excellent running condition. \$1,100. Call 781-2067 after 5 PM.

FOR SALE: 1977½ Subaru DL wagon. \$1,500. Mechanics fine, needs some body work. Call 775-2581.

FOR SALE: 1974 Suzuki GT 550, sissy bar, crash bar, high rise handle bars, king/queen seat, good condition. \$500. Call 797-5768.

FOR SALE: 40 acre woodlot in Durham. Frontage on Roundabout Pond. \$600 per acre. Call 799-8308.

FOR SALE: Ladies' 19" Schwinn Varsity. 10-speed, green, very fine condition, \$100. Man's 25" Motobecane Super Mirage, 12-speed, blue, new tires, excellent throughout, \$200. Call 772-8742.

FOR SALE: 2 modern Danish dressers (one with mirror), \$50 each. 1 brand new avocado range hood, \$35. 1 8-channel Realistic scanner with crystals, \$50. 1 Singer table model sewing machine, \$100. Please contact Ginny in Social Service at 781-4150 after 5 PM.

FOR SALE: Wood table with shelf and planter in middle. Oblong shape. Good condition, \$35. Call 772-5103.

ROOMMATES WANTED: 2 females to share quiet home near MMC. \$120/mo. plus share of util. and heat. Call 773-4217 days.

ROOMMATE WANTED: Male/female to share heated apt. within easy walking distance of MMC. Rent, util. and parking. \$200/mo. each. Call 772-5835 after 5 PM.

ROOMMATE WANTED: To share 2 BR large, sunny duplex house in Falmouth Foreside, WBFP, hardwood floors, and quiet location. \$240/mo. plus util. Call Jay 781-4104.

RESPONSIBLE WOMAN WANTED: To share quiet home with same. Just outside of intown Portland, near ocean. Large yard, parking. No cigs/pets, please. Call 772-3468 after 5 PM.

WANTED: Used backpack. Call 883-6320 evenings or pager 324.

WANTED: Full-sized crib in good condition. Call 797-2044.

RIDE WANTED: From Sanford to Portland or Exit 4 Biddeford to Portland. Days 7 AM-3 PM. Will car pool also. Call 323-8476 evenings.

HOUSE CLEANING: Reliable, experienced woman. Local references furnished. Everything from dirty refrigerators to dusty baseboards. Will also clean offices. Call Sparkles Service mornings, or evenings after 8 PM, 773-3079. Will clean only in the Portland area.

BABYSITTING: Will babysit in my own home in Gorham area. Excellent references. Call 839-2089 anytime.

BABYSITTING: Overnight away from the hassle of children or a week-end. Warm, fun-loving grammy is what you need. For appointment call 772-5103.

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.

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WEDDING PHOTOGRAPHY: Call Don Brown at 865-6071.

HOME REPAIRS: Quality work at a reasonable price. Carpentry work a specialty. Call 774-4899.

Nurses to discuss legal, ethical issues

The Southern Maine Chapter of the American Association of Critical Care Nurses will present "Legal and Ethical Issues in Critical Care," October 12 at 7:00 PM in Classrooms 3&4. Judith T. Stone, RN, MS, MMC Vice President for Nursing, will be the guest speaker and lead the discussion.

Selected legal issues relevant to the management of critically ill patients and the ethical dilemmas they present for nursing will be the focus. Two contact hours have been requested from the Maine State Nurses' Association.

New Employees

HOUSEKEEPING: Krista J. Anderson, Hattie A. Distasio, Rita M. Dow

CARDIOGRAPHY: Jeremy R. Colpitts

PARKING: James M. Connors

PHYSICAL THERAPY: Pamela N. Crowley

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY: Marie Hodge

PHARMACY: Collen A. Moroney

MENTAL HEALTH: Deborah A. Willey

FOOD SERVICE: Kathleen Splude

Morphology

NASH'S LAW

Progress might have been all right once, but it went on too long.

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Portland, Maine 04102

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Portland, Maine

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