

what's happening

Maine Medical Center
Portland, Maine 04102

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April 14, 1982

Blizzard of '82 fails to shut hospital down

After a storm like last week's blizzard, which brought most of New England to a standstill, it is clear that thanks are owed to the special people who kept Maine Medical Center running. We'll never know just how many individual acts of dedication contributed to the weathering of the storm, but from all reports a picture of widespread self-sacrifice and commitment to duty may be drawn:

...many people worked double shifts, some worked three shifts, and according to Associate Vice President for Data Management Jerry Edson, who was Administrator on Call Tuesday night, some people even worked part of a fourth shift before being relieved.

...in many cases, the Tuesday evening shift didn't leave until late Wednesday morning, when public transportation in Portland was able to deliver relief staffing. Those who stayed the night cat-napped in makeshift "barracks" areas in conference rooms and offices, many hastily converted under Night Unit Manager Ed Moore's direction. Stranded visitors were among the "guests" Tuesday night.

...Nurse Supervisors Jan Grant, RN, and Peggy Farr, RN, were "flat out," according to Jerry Edson. They and staff nurses were contending -- successfully -- with massive staffing shortages on top of their regular duties. Cancelled discharges in addition to a heavy admission schedule on Tuesday created a high census of 561, and the staff just kept coping admirably.

...personnel from throughout the hospital volunteered for duty in other areas, like the Lab and radiology workers who could be found on various nursing units.

...meanwhile, people from maintenance, the copy center, and housekeeping helped out in the short-staffed

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HELPING OUT in the laundry during the Blizzard of '82 were a number of people from Engineering, Housekeeping, and other departments. Among them were, from left: Mechanic Keith Austin, Licensed Plumber Gene Gillies, and Mechanic Ken Burgess. (A/V Photo)

Long service honored at employee coffee

Fifteen employees with a total of 370 years of service to Maine Medical Center were among those honored during the Employee Service Award Coffee on Monday. Four received thirty-year pins, six twenty-five year pins, and five twenty-year pins.

The honorees were:

30 YEARS: Virginia Andreasen, Social Services; Edith Harris, Medical Records; Eleanor I. Littlefield, Nursing, P1C; and Ashley Smith, Housekeeping.

25 YEARS: Gloria Stover, Utilization Review; Arthur F. Wilkinson, Research; Clayton Freeman, Pharmacy; Anna J. Freeman, Patient Accounts; Grace Stilings, Nursing, Float; and Gertrude Smith, Nursing, P3A.

20 YEARS: Grace I. Dec, Clinic - Primary Care; Anna Aiken, Cardio-

graphy; Joan T. Howard, Food Services; Mabel Cormier, Nursing, R3; and Winifred York, Nursing, ASU.

The following employees were also honored at the coffee:

15 YEARS OF SERVICE: Annette R. Dufresne, OR; Patricia A. Niboli, Pathology; Maurice Morin, Mechanical Maintenance; Robert H. Brainerd, Linen Processing; Rita Hughes, Central Supply; Linda L. Currier, Nursing, Float; Donna J. Krah, Nursing, P2D; Glenice L. Dernier, Nursing, P6; and Gail E. Labbe, Nursing, R2.

10 YEARS OF SERVICE: Daniel P. Pillsbury, Pulmonary Medicine; Candace L. Kucharik, Medicine; Judith Y. Castle, Clinic-Administration; Meredith Bennet, Emergency; William P. Carter, Jr., Emergency; Dolores Whittum, OR; Richard C. Britton, M.D., Surgery; Sylvia E. Hunt, Hematology; Diane Lemire,

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SERVICE, from page 1

Surgical Pathology; Roger F. Paquette, Surgical Pathology; Ann G. Lazette, Medical Rehabilitation; Donald A. Leeber, M.D., Nephrology; Peter P. Martelle, Physical Therapy; William L. Gousse, III, Pharmacy; Robert R. Auger, Pharmacy; Richard E. Drew, Pharmacy; Iva A. Harding, Food Services; Paul M. Saucier, Food Services; William F. Dyer, Operation Maintenance; Mary G. Queen, Housekeeping; Hazel M. Market, Housekeeping; Cecilia Graham, Housekeeping; Mercy M. Edavettal, Central Supply; Effie S. Butler, Central Supply; Catherine C. Cribby, Central Supply; Anne Marie Wogan, Switchboard.

Department of Nursing, Ten Years:

Marion R. Dyer, NICC; Joanne Gorham, Nursery; Paula Hayes, P4D; Janice W. Hanson, P1C; Jeanne Vigneault, R1; Annina Googins, R5; Carol E. Maynard, P3A; Diane York, R3; Patricia A. Kelley, R3; Rachel Yannayon, R3;

Walda J. Gallant, R7; Alleen Eastwood, R7; Carol A. Nadeau, R7; Donna M. Arsenaault, SCU; Kathryn M. Lippoth, ER; Joann Wood, ER; and Alexina C. McMahon, ER.

FIVE YEARS OF SERVICE:

Donna J. French, Pulmonary Medicine; George F. Ellis, Pulmonary Medicine; Janet B. Horsey, Social Services; Lois F. Hill, Pediatrics; Elizabeth Q. Lewis, Pediatrics; Dolores M. McGrew, Pediatrics; Gregory D'Augustine, M.D., House Staff; Alexander M. Walker, M.D., House Staff; Pamela P. Fleischman, Medical Records; Virginia P. Cook, Medical Records; Mary T. Ciampi, Medical Records; Richard C. Eastman, Endocrinology - Research; Mary Beth Sunenblick, Mental Health; Carol Ann Haas, Mental Health - Therapeutic Nursery; Renee T. Leavitt, Mental Health - Occupational Therapy; Alice A. Rose, Cancer Registry; Lewis P. Golden, M.D., Clinic - Primary Care; Jim Pang, Jr., M.D., Mental Health; Jacquelyn Robinson, Mental Health;

Margaret Ferrari, ER; Sharon I. Anderson, ER; John R. Saucier, M.D., ER; Russell J. Burnett, OR; Diane J. Landeck, OR; Ruth A. Shea, OR; Patrick P. Caporino, OR; Carlene Wyndham, OR; Joanne I. Burton, Pathology; Diane D. Reny, Blood Bank; Rebecca A. Dunbar, Chemistry; Patricia A. Hill, Chemistry; Anne Needham, Chemistry; David R. Baker, Hematology; Rosalie Milliken, Phlebotomy; Gayle A. Sawyer, Radiation Therapy; Patton S. Griggs, Radiation Therapy; Jeanette L. Crawford, Nephrology; Janet S. Ardam, Cardiology; Ronald W. Walters, Heart

Catheterization; John H. Seigle, M.D., Anesthesia; Richard M. Flowerdew, M.D., Anesthesia;

Gertrude E. Danis, Food Services; Roger R. LeBlanc, Food Services; Robert P. LaRoche, Food Services; Catherine R. Colello, Food Services; Deborah L. Hambelton, Cafeteria; Allen F. Rumery, Carpentry; Joy A. Titterington, Clinical Engineering; Leon Brzoska, Housekeeping; Edward O. Smith, Housekeeping; Evelyn K. Cousins, Housekeeping; Jeaninne M. Proulx, Linen Processing; Gerald A. Berch, Data Management; Michael A. McLean, Data Management; David I. Lieberman, Administration; Karen O. Fletcher, Administration; Marcia D. Abildgaard, Data Entry; Philip H. Palamountain, Internal Audit; Charlene L. Thuotte, Patient Accounts; Carolyn A. Gammon, Patient Accounts; Norma L. Andrews, Patient Accounts; Arlene P. Mathews, Switchboard; Charles Dibble, Materials Management.

Department of Nursing, Five Years:

Julie A. Pratt, Float; Pamela K. Tozier, Delivery Room; Laurel Ann York, Delivery Room; Sarah I. Galarneau, NICC; Jaclyn G. Gilbert, Nursery; Dolores A. Barcebal, P2D; Virginia L. Kapinos, P2D; Pamela Thurston, P2D; Christine Lekousi, P2D; Linda M. Dodd, P4D; Mariam K. Jacob, P1C; Anne May Boone, R1; Mary A. Plante, R1; Barbara A. Poulin, P2A; Wanda L. McCoy, P2A;

Jane B. Foley, P3A; Esther Cleveland, P3CD; Carla R. Sandstrom, R2; Susan Stone, R2; Michele Sewall, R3; Pauline Vokey, R3; Cecilia Quimby, R3; Stephanie J. Smalley, R3; Virginia Weeks, R3; Lauralee Downs, Recovery Room; Maryellen Capelluti, SCU; Kimberly M. Beaulieu, SCU; Nancy S. Thibodeau, SCU; Rebecca Gallant, SCU; Joan Smaha, Nephrology; Judith V. Berghuis, ER; and Phyllis A. Bastone, Staff Development.

Last chance to donate to Downeast Book Sale

The 1982 Downeast Book Sale, scheduled for April 28 - May 1, is fast approaching. The sponsors, the Auxiliary to the Cumberland County Medical Society, have made a "last chance" appeal for donations of books. Proceeds from the event, now in its tenth year, benefit the medical libraries and health education programs at Maine Medical Center and Mercy Hospital.

Donations may be dropped off at these locations: the MMC Volunteer Office; Shaw's supermarkets in Falmouth, North Windham, Millcreek and Northgate; Martin's Shop and Save in North Windham; Pond Cove IGA in Cape Elizabeth; and Brighton Avenue Pharmacy in Portland. Pick-up for large numbers of books may be arranged by calling 799-6912 or 781-2800.

34th Honor Night set for middle of May

Maine Medical Center's 34th Annual Honor Night will be celebrated Wednesday May 19, 1982, at the Downtown Holiday Inn. Some 1,400 employees will be invited.

The long-standing tradition of Honor Night is to honor MMC employees for long and loyal service. Everyone who will have completed at least five years of service as of July 31, 1982, as well as retirees, will receive invitations to this special night of dining and good entertainment.

Invitations will be out in the near future, and more details about the evening's program will be available soon.

New Employees

AUDIO/VISUAL: Larry Gorton

OPERATING ROOM: Trina Latini

*The Staff of the Health Sciences Library
invites all in the MMC family to*

OPEN HOUSE IN THE LIBRARY

Thursday, April 22, 1982

1 - 6 PM

Refreshments will be served

In observance of National Library Week

BLIZZARD, from page 1—
laundry, painters shoveled snow, and secretaries from Personnel and Administration made sandwiches and served meals in the Cafeteria.

...a dozen and a half Food Services workers stayed over Tuesday night to be sure breakfast would be ready Wednesday. They were assisted by volunteer breakfast cookers like Unit Manager Tom Linehan, Safety Officer Jim Fraser, and Secretary Debbie Eloian, to name a few.

...the operating rooms were doing emergency and urgent surgery only, and Director of Operating Room Nursing Cathy Cohen, RN, summarized her staff's efforts simply: "Everyone in OR worked their tails off as usual." And it didn't stop when the storm did, either. The OR, like other parts of the hospital, spent Thursday and Friday making up for a lost day of tightly-scheduled time.

...many people walked to the hospital Wednesday morning, when virtually all motorized transportation was paralyzed. No one knows who walked the farthest, but any distance was difficult and more than a little dangerous. Walks from Cape Elizabeth and Westbrook have been reported.

...countless employees were shuttled to the hospital by Security vehicles, charged with bringing absolutely essential people to staff patient care units and operating rooms. Untold others were ferried to or from the hospital by fellow employees with four-wheel drive vehicles.

...paychecks were ready on schedule Thursday, because Payroll people and others made the special effort to come in and process them Wednesday.

...one volunteer who called the Volunteer Office Wednesday morning to say she couldn't get to the hospital was surprised to hear the sleepy voice of one of two volunteers who had spent the night here.

...reports on the efforts of departments under predictably heavy pressure -- such as Security, Switchboard, and Outside Services -- were predictably complimentary. They all performed, as usual, wonderfully.

The reports go on and on, but all are basically the same. The employees who braved the storm and the ones who stayed through displayed the dedication and willingness to do whatever was needed that has always been the rule rather than the exception at MMC. It would be impossible to know all the individual instances of caring, or to list all the names if we did, but

BLIZZARD, page 4

MMC Burn Unit has fourth anniversary

The Maine Medical Center Burn Unit is celebrating its fourth anniversary this year. The Unit was dedicated in March of 1978 as part of a statewide system for burn treatment established through the efforts of the Pine Tree Foundation for Burn Treatment. Other hospitals included in the system are Gould Memorial Hospital at Presque Isle, Central Maine Medical Center in Lewiston, and Eastern Maine Medical Center in Bangor.

The eight-bed unit at MMC, located on R4, was established with funds from a two-year, \$120,000 campaign by the Pine Tree Foundation for Burn Treatment, aided by the Maine State Federation of Firefighters, and major contributions from the Jasper N. Keller Chapter, Telephone Pioneers of America; the Simmons Foundation; and the MMC Annual Fund.

In its four years of operation, the Burn Unit has treated 210 patients. These are generally the most seriously injured of the 450 people burned in Maine in an average year. The efforts of the Pine Tree Foundation for Burn Treatment, the MMC Burn Unit and other burn units, and medical professionals across the state have greatly improved treatment for burn victims in Maine. The average length of stay at the MMC unit in 1978, for instance, was 22 days. Better field treatment and improved recovery techniques have reduced that to 16 days.

The Burn Unit and its patients continue to be beneficiaries of charitable work, including that of the Telephone Pioneers, the Golden Eagles motorcycle club, and various college groups.

Please Note

The next meeting of the American Association of Critical Care Nurses (AACN) will be held at 7 PM on April 14 at Regional Memorial Hospital in Brunswick. Guest speaker will be David Getson, M.D., discussing "Holistic Medicine: Its Relationship in the Critical Care Setting."

A few more volumes have been away from the Library far too long. Please check your desk, briefcase, coffee table for the following:

Annals of Emergency Medicine, January & February 1982 issues.

Circulation, February and March 1982 issues.

Surgical Symposium set for April 23-24

The Thirteenth Annual Surgical Symposium -- one of Maine Medical Center's premier teaching events -- is scheduled for April 23 and 24. The Symposium is sponsored by the MMC Department of Surgery.

The 12th annual Isaac M. Webber, M.D., Surgical Lecture will highlight the two-day program, which takes place in MMC's Classrooms 3 & 4. This year the lecture will be delivered by W. Sterling Edwards, M.D., Professor of Surgery and Chairman of the Department of Surgery at the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque. Dr. Edwards will speak on "The Life and Surgical Contributions of Alexis Carrel."

MMC Chief of Surgery Richard C. Britton, M.D., will preside over the Friday morning portion of the program, which opens with registration at 8:30 AM on April 23. Presentation of papers by senior residents will follow, and events scheduled for the balance of the morning include a lecture by Dr. Edwards on Venous Stasis and others on topics that include gastropasty, head injuries, and lumps in the throat. A problem case clinic will follow luncheon, and afternoon lectures will culminate with the Webber lecture at 4:30. Robert S. Kramer, M.D., a thoracic surgeon on MMC's Attending Medical Staff, will preside at the afternoon session.

The morning of Saturday, April 24, will feature lectures on umbilical vein grafting, intra-operative transfusion, the occluded carotid artery, and prosthetic vascular grafts. The Saturday session is a joint meeting with the Maine Vascular Society, and will be chaired by Maine Vascular Society President Clement A. Hiebert, M.D. Dr. Edwards will close the program with a discussion of "Recent Advances in Peripheral Vascular Surgery," after which a buffet luncheon is scheduled.

Presentors at the symposium include: Gregory D'Augustine, M.D., David Frantz, M.D., Robert Oram, M.D., Joel Johnson, M.D., Saul Katz, M.D., Carl Brinkman, M.D., George Bokinsky, M.D., Winthrop MacLaughlin, M.D., Walter Goldfarb, M.D., Robert Isler, M.D., Robert McAfee, M.D., Edward Nowicki, M.D., Joan Tryzelaar, M.D., Lawrence Crane, M.D., Elizabeth Serrage, M.D., Robert Waterhouse, M.D., Richard Dillihunt, M.D., Richard Schwartz, M.D., Padiath Aslam, M.D., C. Edward Dixon, M.D., and Adam Wesolow, M.D.

BLIZZARD, from page 3—
each person knows who he or she is.

It is also impossible to know how many employees tried to get in and were turned back by the weather. Thanks are due to those whose cars went off the road or became mired in the middle of it, who fought losing battles to keep their driveways open long enough to get out, who dared the drifts, the wind, and the snow and just couldn't make it. The frustration of knowing one is needed and unable to get in was a burden borne by many during the storm.

Vice President for Nursing Judith T. Stone, RN, had words of praise for all those nursing personnel who "expended inordinate energies" in trying to get here, staying here, and being flexible enough to do all that needed to be done. She called their responsiveness, in a word, "exceptional."

MMC President Edward C. Andrews, Jr., M.D., one of the ones who made it in on Wednesday, summed it up: "If anyone doubts how special this place is, or doubts how special our people are, they should have been here during the storm. It was just remarkable."

Morphology

FERGUSON'S PRECEPT

A crisis is when you can't say "Let's forget the whole thing."

HARDIN'S LAW

You can never do just one thing.

New Employees

CSD: Sandra Morrison

FOOD SERVICES: Nancy Anderson, Susan Torrey

MED. TECH. PROG.: Sarah Farr

NURSING: Ann Morse, Gloria Weller

RADIOLOGY: Cheryl A. Coolbrith

Junior Volunteers wanted and welcome

The summer Junior Volunteer Program at MMC is gearing up again, with a greater variety of jobs than ever before. The program offers young people between the ages of 14 and 17 an opportunity to spend one day or more each week of their summer vacation doing useful, responsible work at the hospital.

The Junior Volunteer Program is an excellent way to learn about hospitals and health careers, and to develop good work habits and a sense of responsibility. Of course, as for all volunteers, the greatest benefit is the sense of personal satisfaction that comes from helping others.

Several of this summer's positions will be designed with young men in mind, in hopes of attracting more to the program, according to Audrey Gough, Director of Volunteer Services. In addition, there will be positions in the Admitting Office, Central Services, Coffee Shop, nursing units, and other areas of the hospital.

The program runs from the week after schools close in June until the Friday before Labor Day. Any young people interested should call the Volunteer office at 871-2205 as soon as possible to arrange an interview. Interviews will be scheduled for Spring vacation, April 20-23 and April 26-30.

Marketplace

BABYSITTING: Will babysit in my South Portland home. Experienced, reasonable rates, flexible hours. Near I-95. 799-8649.

FOR RENT: 2 BR apt. Wall-to-wall carpet, stove and refrig. Adults only. \$230/mo. plus utils. \$300 sec. dep. Call 775-2581 after 2 PM.

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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FOR RENT: Summer cottage in Old Orchard Beach. Sleeps 4, has fireplace. Short walk to beach and amusements. \$165/wk. Call 799-8637.

FOR RENT: 1 BR apt., convenient location near Mercy Hospital. \$340/mo. includes heat. Call days 775-3536 x1568, nights 773-3686 ask for Jim.

FOR RENT: Upstairs in 2-family house, partially furn. apt. in Falmouth near shopping centers. 4 RMs and bath. \$300/mo. No children, no pets. 781-4280.

FOR SALE: EMC-B150 2-channel solid state musical instrument amplifier. Can be used with guitar, bass, keyboards, etc. Has new 15-in. Altec 150-watt speaker, castors and handles. Asking \$200 or best offer. Also willing to trade. Must see and hear to appreciate. For more info. contact Dave at 767-4225 after 5 PM.

FOR SALE: 1976 Skidoo. Running cond., good tread, \$175. 892-8039.

FOR SALE: 1976 Honda 500 T. Very good cond., extras included. Asking \$925. Phone 773-0066, eves.

FOR SALE: 2 Michelin radials XZX 165-15, only 3,000 miles, will fit Saabs. \$40 each. 934-4983.

FOR SALE: Atlantic 224 wood stove. \$275. Call 773-5844.

FOR SALE: Diving gear -- mask, fins, snorkel, knife, depth gauge, small wet-suit, and carrying bag. 781-4002 eves.

FOR SALE: 1962 Lincoln Continental Town Car. Leather interior, power everything. No rust. Original car, not from Maine. Beige & cream exterior. \$1700 firm. Tires all sizes starting at \$10 each. Wilson T-3000 tennis racket, \$25. Many used auto parts. Call for info. David at 883-6820 after 5 PM.

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