

what's happening

Maine Medical Center
Portland, Maine 04102

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February 4, 1981

Riordan named to new Risk Management post

Rose Riordan, RN, Head Nurse on P3CD, has been named Nurse Coordinator for Risk Management, Vice President for Health Affairs Turner Bledsoe, M.D., announced this month. The extensive search to fill the new position lasted over a year, and Dr. Bledsoe says the search committee was "pleased to find in our own ranks the ideal person for the job."

Miss Riordan becomes the first nurse to assume staff responsibilities in Risk Management, although Nursing has had representatives on the Risk Management Committee for several years. The Nurse Coordinator will be responsible for the detailed investigation of unusual incidents in patient care, including injuries and problems with treatment. She will gather all appropriate facts and data from the staff involved as well as from the patient, and keep track of potential hazards.

The Nurse Coordinator also has an education role, in which she will use the knowledge gained in the investigation and analysis of risk areas to develop programs and policies to address particular problems. Miss Riordan will monitor all facets of patient care relating to risk management, and she will be a key participant in the process for improving effectiveness and safety of our care.

According to Dr. Bledsoe, a nurse brings to this position important clinical experience in hospital systems and an ability to deal effectively with both patients and staff. Associate Vice President for Risk Management Edward J. McGeachey says "Miss Riordan knows the hospital thoroughly, and she never hesitates to speak her beliefs," which makes her an excellent choice for this critically important position.

Miss Riordan has been with MMC for almost seven years, and has been

RIORDAN, page 4



ROSE RIORDAN, RN, NURSE COORDINATOR FOR RISK MANAGEMENT



THE WINNERS OF THE EMPLOYEE ACTIVITY COMMITTEE'S U.S. Savings Bond raffle, drawn in December, recently received their bonds in an official ceremony. EAC Vice President Paul Labbe, Clinical Engineering, presented a \$500 bond to (from left) Rosalinda Layug, Housekeeping, a \$200 bond to Chief Switchboard Operator Dot Norton and a \$100 bond to R4 Acting Head Nurse Susan Langlois, RN. (A/V Photo)

10 Nursing employees awarded scholarships

The Scholarship and Loan Committee of the Maine Medical Center Department of Nursing has awarded ten scholarships to MMC employees who are continuing their education in Nursing. Four of this year's awards come from specific scholarship funds, the rest from a general scholarship fund composed of gifts accumulated over the years.

Carol Cosand, RN, Management Systems & Data, and Kimberly Beaulieu, RN, SCU, received scholarships from the Phillips M. Payson Nursing Scholarship Fund. Ms. Cosand is enrolled in Boston University's Master's Program in Nursing Administration, and Mrs. Beaulieu is continuing her studies at the University of Southern Maine School of Nursing.

Normand Begin, currently employed in MMC's Blood Bank, received a scholarship from the M&A Pendergast Fund to help him finish his studies at the Mercy Hospital School of Nursing. Terri Cahoon, RN, SCU, currently studying at the University of Southern Maine School of Nursing, received her scholarship from the Cummings Fund.

Recipients from the general fund include: Louise LeBlanc, LPN, R3, studying at Westbrook College; Jo MacNair, RN, enrolled at the Mercy Hospital School of Anesthesia; Richard Leonard, CNA, enrolled in the LPN program at SMVTI; Gloria Ouellette, NA, R2, a student at the USM School of Nursing; Nancy Sturdevant, RN, CCRN, R7, working toward her MS in the Boston University program; and Janet Collomy, RN, R7, also a BU Graduate Program student.

FOOD SERVICE EMPLOYEE OF THE WEEK

is

MERRILL COX
DIETARY AIDE

MMC discount program adds service station

Pete's Maine Mall Exxon has joined the MMC Employee Discount Program. Before you race to your cars: gas and oil are not included! Pete's is offering a 10% discount on parts and labor, and has a certified technician on duty. The hours are 7AM-10PM Monday through Saturday, and 9AM-6PM on Sunday. Photo ID's are required.

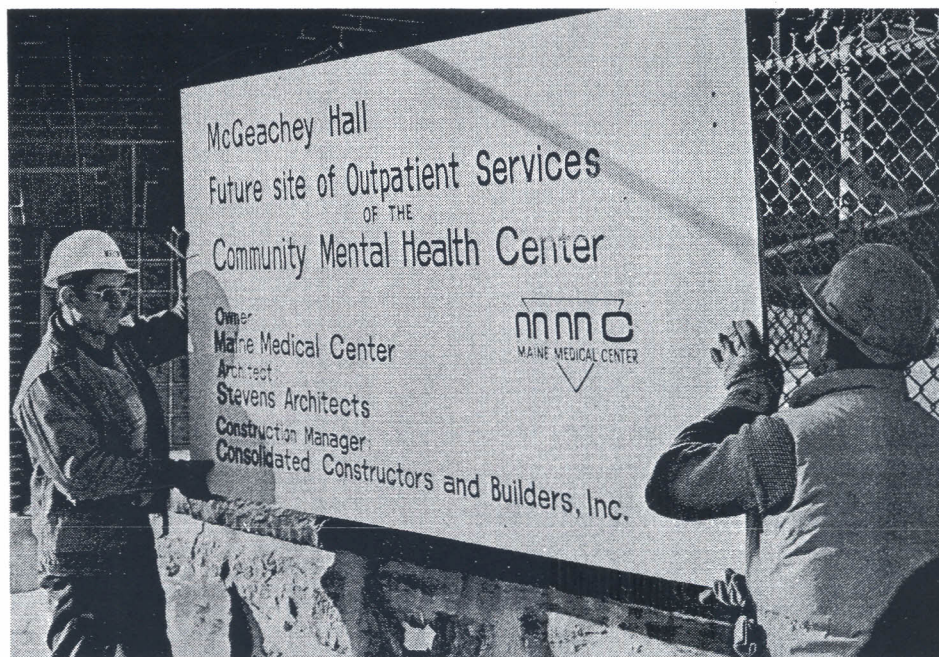
Hospital has a tasty bonus for employees

Through rain, snow, sleet, and bitter cold temperatures, Maine Medical Center's employees keep the hospital running and provide the best possible patient care. As a "thank you," the week of February 9-14 has been designated Employee Appreciation Week, and that appreciation will be shown in a special way. Included with your paychecks tomorrow will be tickets for a

free meal (value up to \$2.50) in the MMC Cafeteria, valid anytime during Appreciation Week.

Daily drawings for prizes are also scheduled, using the meal ticket stubs. If for any reason you're not working during Appreciation Week, your meal ticket will be honored at the Cafeteria until February 28.

So, take a break and join your co-workers in a celebration of all the work and caring that keeps MMC running smoothly!



RENOVATION WORK IS UNDER WAY AT McGEACHEY HALL, formerly Vaughan Hall, across the Bramhall Parking Lot from the Maine Medical Center complex. This is the first step in preparing the building for its future use as the MMC Community Mental Health Center, which will house services currently located in Holt Hall at the corner of Congress and Bramhall Streets. The building was renamed for Associate Vice President for Risk Management Edward J. McGeachey, Jr., in recognition of his many years of service to MMC in outpatient services and social work. The interior photos below show the demolition work in progress. (A/V Photo)



Cystic Fibrosis test may be on the horizon

The National Cystic Fibrosis Foundation has awarded a \$32,841 grant to the Foundation for Blood Research in Scarborough, for the development of a blood test to identify carriers in Cystic Fibrosis.

Cystic Fibrosis (CF) is a genetic disease caused by a recessive gene, and is the most common recessive genetic disease in the Caucasian population. Carriers exhibit no symptoms of the disease, and at present the only way to identify them is by the birth of an affected child.

The CF gene is carried by one out of twenty whites, and when both parents are carriers the odds of producing an affected child are very high. CF is one of the few genetic diseases for which there is presently no prenatal screening technique, and eight to ten affected infants are born each year in Maine alone. A simple, reliable blood test would provide prospective parents with their risk information beforehand, if they wished.

The test will be developed by the FBR's Radioimmunoassay Laboratory, under the direction of Dr. George J. Knight. Other parts of the Foundation will be involved, as will consultants from specialized laboratories in Scotland.

MEDICAL SERVICES FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

25th Annual Meeting

Friday, February 6, 1981
6:30 PM to Midnight
Italian Heritage Center
Portland

The time has come for another MSFCU meeting, including a brief business session, election of Board members, dinner, and a social evening. *High Ryder* will provide the dancing music this year, and door prizes will be awarded to CU members. Tickets for the evening are \$7 each, available from Board members or at the MSFCU office.



AN OVERHEAD VIEW OF THE MAINE MEDICAL CENTER PARKING RAMP shows a few empty spaces on the upper levels, but the ramp is full to overflowing most of the time. Efforts to accommodate more cars have included re-stripping portions for subcompact cars only, and allowing parking in some of the crossovers. Other crossovers must remain open, however, and signs put up last week warn violators that they will be towed.

(A/V Photo)

1980 Annual Fund hits all-time high

The 1980 MMC Annual Fund closed its books with a record-setting total of \$152,252, according to Director of Development Peter C. Barnard. That amount is nearly \$24,000 more than was raised in 1979, and is well beyond the goal of \$140,000. The credit, Barnard says, goes to Mrs. Sidney W. Wernick, 1980 Annual Fund Chairman; to Mr. John W. L. White and Dr. Carlyle B. Voss, the Vice Chairmen; and to the conscientious members of the 1980 Annual Fund Committee, as well as the many hundreds of donors whose generous gifts made up the impressive total.

The 1980 contributors designated their gifts as follows: \$134,986 for Capital Purposes (building, renovation, and equipment); \$8,709 for Patient Care; \$2,332 for Medical Education; and \$6,225 for Medical Research. The fund will be spent on high-priority items that do not fit into the hospital's tightly-monitored budgets, or that occur between normal budgeting cycles.

The donors to the 1980 Annual Fund will be especially recognized by two "Appreciation Day Programs", one on the afternoon of Wednesday, April 29, and the other on Tuesday morning, May 5. All who contributed last year will receive invitations to these events. Program details on the Appreciation Days will be announced at a later date.

Show examines access to medical care in U.S.

As the United States continues to debate the pros and cons of a national health insurance program, a new awareness is growing: health care is not an unlimited resource. This means that the total deployment of life-saving resources -- what we have come to expect from medicine -- will not always be possible. How medical care is distributed in our society, and how well that distribution measures up to our ideal of justice, is examined in "Doctor, I Want . . .", the last of the six programs in the *Hard Choices* series being carried in Maine by MPBN's Channel 26.

The final episode of the series looks at the health care delivery system in America, the attitudes we have toward health care, and the definition of health itself. Willard Gaylin, M.D., President of the Hastings Center: The Institute of Society, Ethics, and the Life Sciences, hosts the program, scheduled for 11 PM Friday, February 6.

Almost ten percent of the country's Gross National Product, \$210 million each year, is spent on health care. Some argue that a national health care system would solve many of the economic and distribution problems, some that the only solution is a drastic change in lifestyles. "Doctor, I Want . . ." examines the ethical problems raised by a system which cannot meet all needs.

RIORDAN, from page one
Head Nurse on P3CD for six years. She sees her new position as a logical progression, though she admits she'll miss the day-to-day clinical activities. "The nice thing," she says, "is that this new job deals with the quality of patient care in the broad sense, which is something a Head Nurse would like to do more of if only she had the time."

Miss Riordan was born in Maine, and received her Nursing degree at Central Maine General Hospital's School of Nursing. She has worked in hospitals around the country, including ones in San Francisco, New York City, and Hartford, Connecticut. Before coming home to Maine, she worked six years at Cape Cod Hospital in Massachusetts.

Marketplace

FOR RENT: Westbrook apt., 6 rms., bath, all paneled, w/w carpeting, large fenced-in yard, parking, heated; 1 child allowed, no pets. Avail. Feb. 2. \$90/wk. Call 787-3748.

FOR RENT: Small unheated apt., 5 rms., large yard, Payson Park area, adults, no pets. \$275/mo. plus sec. dep. Call 774-2575 after 3 PM.

FOR RENT: Newly decorated 6 rm. apt., stove, no refrig., parking, washer and dryer hookup. \$225/mo. plus utils. Call 799-6437.

FOR RENT: Modern 1 BR apt., Pine St., w/w carpet, avail. immediately. \$250/mo. includes heat. Call 774-3739 after 3 PM.

FOR SALE: Telephone answering device (code-a-phone 1400) with remote command, like new. \$150. Call 797-7828 after 6 PM.

FOR SALE: K2 model 255 skis, 200 cm. with look bindings, ex. cond. \$99 firm. Call David at 772-3225 after 6 PM.

FOR SALE: Gold colonial sofa and chair, good condition. \$125. Call 799-0235.

FOR SALE: 8-foot pram, fiberglass, two rowing positions, used one season, ex. cond. Call 865-3060.

FOR SALE: Thomas Playmate Organ, bought as Christmas gift in 1979 and has gone unused. \$1,200. Call 773-6517 after 5 PM.

ROOMMATE WANTED: Female to share spacious 2 BR Western Prom apt. Laundry, sec. dep., lease, no pets. \$175/mo. plus ½ utils. Call 774-9289 eves.

ROOMMATE WANTED: To share house on Peaks Island. Call 766-5052.

WANTED: Ride offered or wanted to N.Y.C. any Friday afternoon. Return Sunday. Call Howard at 871-2960 eves.

WANTED: Two-wheel girl's bike with or without training wheels. Boy's 20" BMX bike. Call 772-3143.

New Employees

CENTRAL SERVICE: David Beanland, Ronald Edgecomb

FOOD SERVICE: Pamela Benoit, Francis Dorazio, Rae-Ellen Vacchiano

HOUSEKEEPING: Colette Davis, David Doughty, Lisa Jordan, Cynthia Schulz, Douglas Smith

PATIENT ACCOUNTS: Thomas Menna
PHLEBOTOMY: Denise Lawler, Jeanne Lyford

RADIOLOGY: Abigail O'Connor

ULTRASOUND RADIOLOGY: Karen Ignatowicz

Ramp repair will alter traffic flow

The down ramp of Level HI of the MMC Parking Ramp will be closed to all traffic from 12:01 AM Thursday, February 5, 1981 until 4 PM Sunday, February 8, 1981. Workmen will be repairing a severe crack during that period.

Traffic patterns during the closing

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 the Editor, Public Information Office, MMC, Portland, Me., 04102. Barbara Burns, Editor.

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will be as follows:

- 1) all up ramps will be open.
- 2) enter the Gilman Street gate and park on Level FG or below. Exit either up to the Emergency gate or down to Gilman Street.
- 3) enter the Gilman Street gate and park on Level HI or above. Exit *up only* to the Emergency gate.
- 4) enter the Emergency gate and park on Level HI or above. Exit *up only* to the Emergency gate.
- 5) there will be no access to levels below HI if you enter from the Emergency gate.

Extra security guards will be on hand during the closing.

Any questions should be directed to Director of Engineering Edward Hollidge at 2447 or Chief of Security William Burnham at 2879.

Morphology

FINAGLE'S CREED

Science is true; don't be misled by facts.

FIFTH LAW OF UNRELIABILITY

To err is human, but to really foul things up requires a computer.

WEBER'S DEFINITION

An expert is one who knows more and more about less and less until he knows absolutely everything about nothing.

PETER'S LAW OF SUBSTITUTION

Look after the molehills, and the mountains will look after themselves.

FAGIN'S RULE ON PAST PREDICTION

Hindsight is an exact science.

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