

what's happening

Maine Medical Center
Portland, Maine 04102

Vol. 11, No. 40

May 7, 1980

Above & Beyond

*an occasional feature dedicated to the
overachievers among us*

As all MMC employees know, life goes on 24 hours a day in a hospital. The level of staffing on nights and weekends is lower but ample, and "on call" people are only minutes away if the worst should happen. All realize that part of being a medical professional is being ready to help when needed, on-call or not.

The "worst" did happen one evening this April. At 7:10 PM, Dr. Henry Perry picked up the Emergency Room phone and called the Operating Room Charge Nurse. He told her REMIS had alerted ER about a serious auto accident and to expect patients soon. A few minutes later, Dr. David Clark, also in the Emergency Room, called to tell OR to expect three to five patients.

Acting Chief of Anesthesiology Donald Klopp, M.D., was on duty that night, as was Anesthesiologist Anne-liese Andrews, M.D. Dr. Klopp rushed to ER to help screen the patients and be a communications link with OR. Meanwhile, Charge Nurse Leslie Ingraham, RN, already had three other emergency patients in OR - an unusually heavy load at that hour. Suddenly, an emergency call came from a pediatric surgeon in Farmington, who was following a severe case being transferred to MMC. He might need an operating room, he said.

It was 7:20 now, ten minutes after the first call from ER, and Leslie Ingraham started calling for help. The on-call nurses and Certified Surgical Technicians were there in minutes, then Ingraham began calling for volunteers. Anesthesiologists Elio Baldini, M.D., and James W. Riechel, M.D., responded quickly, and stayed

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PRESIDENT ANDREWS presents Sidney Grant with her 45-year pin at the Employee Service Award Coffee held last week (left). (A/V Photo)



ASSOCIATE VICE PRESIDENT Edward McGeachey pins a ten-year pin on Sadie Hawkins, Social Service (right). (A/V Photo)

Nurses and Parents to help each other

One of the hardest situations a nurse in maternal/child care must face is dealing with the grieving parent of a child who is seriously ill or has died. In response to a need expressed by the nursing staff in MMC's maternal/child care units, four specialists from diverse areas have developed an educational program dealing with the grieving parent.

Neonatal Nurse Specialist Sara Kellogg, RN, BSN, says the group formed when it realized the staff was asking for more guidance. "Both clinicians and educators are represented," says Kellogg, "and we have expertise in a wide range of areas, from premature babies to young children with life-threatening diseases."

The unique program will consist of five bi-monthly discussions between grieving parents and nursing staff. The parents invited to take part in the programs will be those who have experienced, or are presently experiencing, the situations under discussion. The moderator will interview the parents and guide their discussion with the audience. The organizers hope the exchange between the servers and the served will provide nursing and other personnel with insight to the behaviors and practices that are helpful in dealing with grieving parents.

The first session, "The Stillborn," will be led by Patricia Todorich, RN, MS, Maine Medical's Parent-Child Nurse. Sara Kellogg will lead the next sessions, "The Neonate with Special Needs," and "Unexpected Deaths" will be discussed under the director of Maternal/Child Unit Staff Development Instructor Jeanne St. Amand, RN, MS. The fourth session, "Life Threatening Diseases of Childhood," will be moderated by Helen Goodrich, CAGS, Head Recreational Therapist in MMC's Pediatric Unit. The fifth and final session will be a wrap-up.

The first session will be on Thursday, May 15, from 7 PM to 9 PM in Classrooms 3 & 4 at MMC. The second session will take place on Thursday, July 24 in the same location and at the same time. The exact dates of the remaining sessions have not yet been fixed, but they will happen in September, November and next January. CEARP credits have been requested for each session. More information is available from Jeanne St. Amand in the Staff Development Office.

you should know...

The Women's Softball Team will hold a bake sale, 8 to 10 a.m. Friday, May 9 in the Admitting Lobby.

Security chief Bill Burnham suggests that the loss of school and merit pins could be reduced remarkably if owners would just remember to remove them from lab coats and uniforms that are left unattended. All lost pins and jewelry should be reported promptly to Security, ext. 2124.

The deadline for filing scholarship applications with the Department of Nursing is May 15. MMC personnel enrolled in nursing programs are eligible for assistance. Applications and guidelines are available in the Staff Development office and further information is available from Lois Bazinet, RN, CCRN at x 2397.

thanks....

Evening Nurse Administrator Phyllis Cavallaro would like to thank all who have been so kind to her family and herself during their recent loss.

I would like to express my deepest thanks on behalf of my sister Mary and her two children, Amy and Matthew, to all the generous employees at MMC who donated to the Cavallaro Children's Education Fund. It was greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

*Julie Gillies
Pathology*

Mrs. Helen Markley wishes to thank all her friends for their thoughtfulness and support during her recent bereavement.

**Food Service
EMPLOYEE OF THE WEEK
is
ANTHONY PALESTINI,
Dietary Aide**

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the night.

Valerie Hodgdon, RN, managed to find a babysitter on short notice, and came directly to the hospital. Vanessa McGrath, CST, came in four hours before her normal 11-7 shift started. Elaine Fournier, CST, reported in, and Sally Jarvis, RN, called to offer her help and was told to come right away. Other personnel who had heard about the accident called, but by then OR was at full complement.

The first multiple trauma patient went under the anesthesia at 7:45 PM. It would be nearly ten hours later when the people who started the operation finished it. The second patient was on the table for eight long hours, the third for two. Second shift people Martha Riehle, CST, and Maureen Burns, RN, offered to stay on, but were sent home at 11:30. Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists Bruce Martell and Pat Locke had put the first patient under at 7:45, and were still there at 5:20 AM when the operation ended.

This outstanding reaction to a highly unusual situation is solid testimony to the efficiency and dedication of MMC's Operating Room personnel. Not only did enough people respond immediately, but volunteers were turned away even before the patient arrived. Operating Room Supervisor Catherine B. Cohen, RN, praised her people as "an OR crew to be proud of," saying they "always come forth when needed."

Chief of Surgery Richard C. Britton, M.D., was quick to praise the OR people, saying their action "reflects the special sense of dedication to patients in need which has characterized members of the OR crew over the years." He went on to suggest that "because the OR crew chronically exceeds expectations there would not seem to be reason for commendation, yet staffing five rooms at eight o'clock at night on such short notice by volunteers not on call is a significant achievement."

**National
Hospital
Week**

May 11-17, 1980

We're America's Health Team!

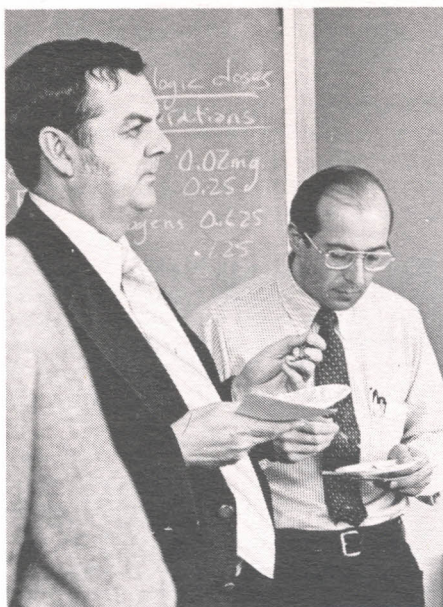
Cheesecake contest produces 16 entries

Paule Cote, Assistant Supervisor of the Blood Bank, won the First Annual Maine Medical Center Cheesecake Contest last Wednesday. Five full judges awarded her the honor after working their way through sixteen entries.

The judges were disappointed there could be only one winner, because they agreed all the cheesecakes were superb. The entries, identified only by number, ranged from the classic to the inventive, chocolate to pumpkin, almond to strawberry. The winner was a mocha version called "Toasted Almond Joy Cheesecake," the recipe for which appears below.

Judging the entries, on the basis of appearance, texture, and taste, were MMC President Edward C. Andrews, Jr., M.D., Acting Vice President of Nursing Judy Stone, RN, Director of Patient Accounts Robert Pratt, Assistant Director for Clinical Engineering Frank Magnarelli, and Assistant Director of Food Services Nutrition Mary Keysor, RD.

The other contestants, all of whom deserve credit for cakes well baked, were Everett A. Orbeton, M.D., Pediatrics; Jo Ann Zukas, Pharmacy; Linda Luce, Nuclear Medicine; Gregory D'Augustine, M.D., Surgery; Susan M. Clemens, Normal Newborn Nursery; Marjorie Jalbert, Volunteers; John P. Romano, Food Services; Patricia Sansoucy, Pathology-Chemistry; Robert Underwood, Food Services; Joan Rodgers, Dietary; Beth Collins, Emergency; Carol Tracy Romano, Out Patient Clinics; Frances A. Dennett, Dietary; and David I. Lieberman, Administration.



DIRECTOR OF PATIENT ACCOUNTS Robert Pratt and Assistant Director of Clinical Engineering Frank Magnarelli judge an entry (left). President Andrews, flanked by samples, marks his scorecard (right). (A/V Photo)



Toasted Almond Joy Cheesecake

- 1 cup chocolate wafer cookie crumbs
- ¼ cup melted butter
- 3 8 oz. packages cream cheese at room temp.
- 1 cup sour cream
- 1 cup sugar
- 2 tbsps. flour
- 3 eggs, separated
- 2 tbsps. instant coffee crystals
- 1 tsp. almond extract
- 2 tbsps. hot water
- 2 tps. sugar
- 1 6 oz. pkg. semi-sweet chocolate chips, melted
- 1 cup whipping cream
- almonds

Preheat oven to 350°

Combine cookie crumbs and melted butter, and press evenly on bottom of 9" springform pan. Whip egg whites until stiff but not dry, set aside. Beat cream cheese, sour cream, sugar and flour together thoroughly. Add egg yolks, one at a time, blending well after each addition. Add the hot water to the instant coffee, stir until dissolved. Add the 2 teaspoons of sugar and the almond extract to the coffee, then fold mixture into the cheese. Then fold the egg whites into the cheese. Pour cheese mixture into springform pan. Marble the melted chocolate by carefully placing the chocolate on top of the cheese and gently swirling it through the mixture. Bake 60 minutes. Turn oven off and let cake cool with door open. When cool, remove sides of springform. Garnish with whipped cream and almonds, if desired. Refrigerate until serving time.

MIS "Smoke" test still on track

The "Smoke" test of Maine Medical Center's Medical Information System is progressing well, according to Associate Vice President for Data Management Donald Dods. For the past three weeks, enough fictitious test patients have been admitted or discharged on the computer to keep the census at an ever-increasing level.

The purpose of the test is simple: to see just how many patients and how much traffic the computer (and its users) can handle. The manufacturers and systems experts aren't sure, so Dods initiated the Smoke test to find

out.

Over the first week, the test census was set at 545, the second week 560, and the third week 575. A total of 105 imaginary patients have been admitted or discharged to keep the computer working at the selected census level. If the actual census rises, the test patients are discharged, and vice-versa.

There is much more to the test than simple census figures, though. The Smoke staff has kept the MIS busy by attaching to each test patient the same amount of computer traffic that would be generated by a real patient. Some 2200 orders have been entered for these non-existent patients, and they have been "served" 1655 meals. In

the names of these patients 905 pharmacy orders, 516 nursing orders, 402 lab orders, 129 x-ray orders, and 150 EEG, EKG, pulmonary medicine, and rehabilitation orders have gone into the computer. Not only that, but test results have come back.

No one can say just how long the test will go on, except that it will run until either the MIS or its users give out. Dods points out that the technical problems a few weeks back had nothing to do with the test, and that when the system gives up, they'll know it. The next jump in the test census may be to 590, and still no one is betting on the figure that will bring the system to a halt.

Help Available for Quitters

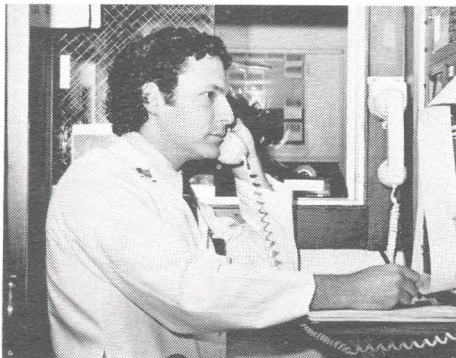
Anyone interested in participating in an American Cancer Society smoking workshop should contact the Health Education office (x 2111). If enough people are interested, the hospital will sponsor the workshop.



Friends to Meet

The Friends of Maine Medical Center will hold their Annual Spring Meeting Friday, May 16, in Classrooms 3 and 4. Coffee will be served at 9:30 a.m., and the meeting begins at 10:00 a.m.

Holistic Health will be the topic of a roundtable discussion at the meeting. This theory of total health care will be discussed by David Getson, M.D., an attending physician in the Department of Emergency Medicine, Harley J. Racer, M.D., Program Director of the Residency Program and Chief of the Department of Family Practice, the Reverend Barry G. Wood, M.Div., M.D., Assistant Chief of Inpatient Psychiatry, and William L. Jackson, M.D., an Emergency physician at Franklin County Memorial Hospital in Farmington.



DAVID GETSON, M.D., one of the participants in the discussion at the Annual Spring Meeting of the Friends of MMC. (A/V Photo)

marketplace

FOR RENT: 2 room apt. (near Woodfords). Prefer single working person, perhaps with one cat. \$200/mo., heated, parking, ref., sec. dep. Call Shirley at 773-2718.

FOR RENT: Large, luxurious Falmouth Foreside condominium. 3 bdrms., 2½ baths, Jacuzzi Whirlpool, beautiful water view, use of tennis courts & swimming pool. Call 781-4996.

FOR SALE: Cap for 8' pick-up truck, crank out windows & screens, good cond. \$200. Man's wet suit, size large, best offer. One piece fiberglass tub & shower unit, white, \$200. Call 774-9395 after 5 p.m.

FOR SALE: Evening gowns, ex. cond., sizes 18 and 20; Pair of Nurse Mate white shoes, size 8½, best offer on all. Call Robyn at 799-2055.

FOR SALE: A78-13 tires (snow & regular), \$5 each. GE full size stove, \$100. Karate uniform, \$8. 2 ski bags, \$8 each. Twin size mattress, \$25. Full size bed & mattress, \$35. Call 797-3344 eves & weekends.

FOR SALE: Bicycle carrier for auto roof, ex. cond., "Protector" type, \$30. Call 799-5806 eves.

FOR SALE: Motorcycle helmet, dark green with sparkles, \$25. Contact Mary in Security.

FOR SALE: 3 bdrm. Dutch Colonial on one acre in wooded and secluded Freeport neighborhood. Attractive financing available. Call 865-3159 from 5-9 p.m.

FOR SALE: Atala 10-speed bike, 26" men's frame, 4 yrs. old, good cond., \$100. Call 797-9181 after 6 p.m.

FOR SALE: Leather coat, size 12, boot length, fur collar; also, suede jacket, size 10. Call 772-8442 eves.

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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FOR SALE: Suzuki Motorcycle 75 cc, 80 mpg, only 600 original miles, will include cover and helmet. Call 799-4255 after 6 p.m.

FOR SALE: 1978 Chevy Nova, 6 cyl., standard shift, AM radio, 18,400 miles, ex. cond., no rust. Call 772-3999 after 5 and on weekends.

FOR SALE: Yard sale on 5/10 and 5/11 at 8 Phillips Rd., Falmouth, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

WANTED: Living quarters available in Ogunquit to help elderly woman with her home. Call 646-9469.

WANTED: Roommate to share spacious 5 room apt. near Osteo. \$115/mo. & ½ utils. Call 772-2184 after 5 p.m.

WANTED: Babysitter days, Mon - Fri. beginning in July. Call 775-0314 or 773-4142.

WANTED: Empty Adolf's Meat Tenderizer and Adolf's Seasoned Salt containers. See Bob Miller in Security.

WANTED: Student PT affiliating at MMC needs room June 9 - July 18. Call collect: Vicki Wien (215) 527-0787 on Sats. and Suns.

WANTED: Infant or toddler to care for full or part-time nights. Phone 773-7911 for personal appointment.

new employees

CAFETERIA Colleen Gallant.

CHEMISTRY Mary Knowlton.

HOUSEKEEPING Maurice Lestage,
Robert Libby.

MEDICAL RECORDS Jane Fileo.

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