

what's happening

Maine Medical Center
Portland, Maine 04102

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November 28, 1979

Housekeeper named evening U-Manager

Appointment of an evening unit manager was announced last week by Agnes Flaherty, R.N., Associate Vice President, Nursing, and Robert J. Campbell, Associate Vice President, Patient Care Services.

The appointment of Edward F. Moore to the new post extends the function of the unit manager to the evening hours for the first time in a move regarded as a major step in the development of the unit manager concept.

Moore, who will assume his new duties December 3, has been serving as an assistant housekeeper in the MMC House-keeping Department.

His assignment marks the second major extension of the unit manager function at MMC since it was organized and implemented in January, 1970. The first was assumption of weekend coverage of patient units by unit managers in working with the nurse administrator to assure adequate services to the inpatient units.

Miss Flaherty recalled that Robert J. Erickson, then a recent Navy retiree, was MMC's first unit manager, pioneering the program under the direction of the late Miss Ethel Lovatt, RN, an assistant director of Nursing. The system was designed by nursing to be an administrative coordinating function. This long-term goal, which has been developed and nurtured by Nursing and the hospital

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UNIT MANAGERS— Seated, Ed Gallant. Standing, from left, Bob Erickson, Phyllis Grover, Tom Linehan, Ed Moore and Arthur Stevenson. (A/V Photo)

Diamond pins, appreciation, refreshments highlight employee service awards coffee

Margaret O'Leary, a technologist in MMC's Hematology Laboratory, received an award Monday for 30 years of hospital service. She was the senior of 215 MMC employees honored at a Service Award Coffee in the Cafeteria Conference Rooms.

Mrs. O'Leary's three-diamond pin was presented by Dr. Edward C. Andrews, Jr., as the highlight of the morning event. The hospital President had expressed his personal thanks and the gratitude of the institution for the loyalty and dedication of the entire long-service group.

He presented 25-year service awards (two diamonds and a sapphire)

to four other veteran employees: Alta Rand of the Coffee Shop; Betty McDonough, RN, of Infection Control; Rosamond Burchill, RN, of Nursing; and Helen Farnsworth, supervisor of the Emergency Division secretaries.

Six other employees received pins (two diamonds) for 20 years' MMC service: Linda Knowles of the Cafeteria;

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Barbara Jackson, RN, of Nursing; Dianne Dussault, RN, of the ORT School; Mary Andrew of the Chemistry Laboratory; Thelma Babbidge, RN, of Nursing; and Christine Hanscom, RN, of Nursing.

Dr. Andrews read the names of 15, 10, and 5-year employees who received their pins from department heads, and there were congratulations, well-wishing and refreshments. Three other long-service employees were pourers: Ruth Russell, RN, of the Operating Rooms, a 35-year employee; Mary Boyle, Medical Records, 25 years; and Miriam Nelson, RN, of Nursing.

Honored by 15 years' service were:

Louise Christy, RN, Nursing; Olivia Thibeau, Endocrine Research; Anna Dennison, Housekeeping; Stanley Meserve, Housekeeping; Priscilla Bragdon, OR; Pamela Dyer, Internal Audit; Anita Marston, RN, Nursing; Jerry MacLean, Endo. Res.; Josephine Verrill, Dietary; John Romano, Dietary; Arlene Farrington, Central Service; Clayton Nowell, Housekeeping; Mary Fortin, Nursing; Martha Thompson, Laundry; Rose Ireland, Linen; Mabel Kennie, Laundry.

For 10 years:

Helena McArdle, Patient Accounts; Steven Land, Endo. Res.; Carolyn Matthews, Med. Rec.; Allan Williams, Parking; Rebecca McGee, Mental Health; Sandra Fairweather, Nursing; Mary Guinard, Med. Tech. School; Lucille Hall, RN, Nursing; Edith Lundren, RN, Nursing.

Dr. Talivaldis Rubins, Anesthesia; Priscilla Scammon, Cardiology; Richard Balser, Medical Rehab.; Dr. Hugh Johnston, Endo. Res.; Clifford Hoover, Pul. Med.; Karen Mayo, PT; Marilyn Gould, Mental Health; Medrith Torrey, Housekeeping; Dr. Phillip Villandry, Anesthesia.

Margaret Howard, Mental Health; David Olin, Dietary; Rhoda Foster, Patient Accounts; Marion Lynch, RN, Nursing; Eugenia Coughlin, Social Service; Joanne Dunn, Pathology/Lab; Pearl Harmon, Laundry; Jane Cooper, Health Science Library; Geraldine Pompeo, Staff Devel./Nursing; Vicki Frost, Rad. Therapy; Edna Garvey, NUC, Nursing; Rita Johnson, Housekeeping.

Valerie Hodgdon, OR; Mary Lou McDonough, Family Practice; Dale Steeves, Emergency; Eleanor Lowell, Personnel; Natalie Childs, LPN, Nursing; Jessie Badgery, Emer.; Margaret Cooper, Dietary; Dianna Arellano, Accounting; Marjorie Swett, Endo. Res.; Joan Rodgers, Dietary; Mary Zsiga, Housekeeping; Nancy Tordoff, RN, Nursing; Louise Sawyer, Cardiology.

Barbara Ellsworth, OR; Judith Bohrmann, RN, Nursing; Margaret Erskine, RN, Nursing; Phyllis Stickney, RN, Nursing; Mignonne Lamb, OR; Natalie Roberts, Housekeeping; Olive Knoop, RN, Nursing; Beatrice Vankeuren, RN, Nursing; Virginia Thurston, RN, Nursing; Dawn

Friberg, Heart Cath.; Agnes Flaherty, RN, Nursing; June Philbrick, Pharmacy; Louis Plrone, Research; Jean Scott, Rad. Therapy.

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administration for the past nine and one-half years, was realized Oct. 1, this year.

The unit management program has relieved head nurses of a long list of non-clinical tasks that relate generally to needs and requests for support services from hospital Engineering, Central Supply, Materials Management, Laundry, Housekeeping and several other MMC departments. Assumption of these responsibilities by unit managers has allowed the head nurses to devote their time to the direct management of patient care and the guidance and direction of nursing personnel. Continuously refined, the system moved first into weekends, and next month, into evenings. The effect is expected to be the same: to relieve the nurse administrator who carries hospital-wide patient care responsibility from the non-clinical, often time-consuming, tasks that relate only generally to the care of patients.

Miss Flaherty added: "The Unit Management program at MMC and its evolution into an extension of the hospital "administrator" on the patient care units, has increased the awareness of both nursing and hospital administration of the need for close coordination of their respective responsibilities

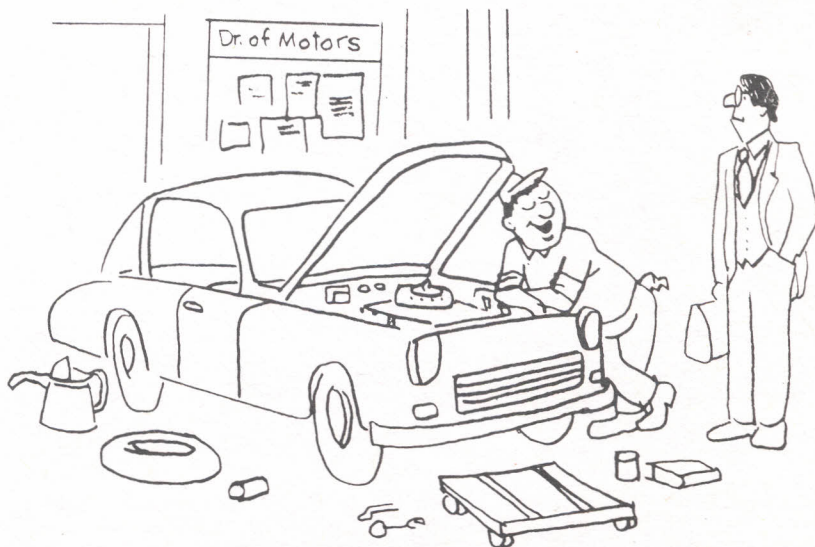
so that patients and their families may be better served."

It began with Bob Erickson and now includes Ed Moore, but credit for the success of the Unit Manager program at MMC is shared by four other unit managers, Phyllis Grover, Ed Gallant, Arthur Stevenson and Tom Linehan. Each works with three to five clinical units in a system that has been used as a model by large hospitals in several parts of the nation.

FBR teaching team has Newton program

A teaching team from the Foundation for Blood Research conducted a workshop on human genetics and immunology for nearly 50 biology teachers from the Greater Boston area Thursday at Newton North High School, Newton, Mass. It was the team's second out-of-Maine education program...a similar workshop was held earlier this year in New Hampshire.

The program was arranged by Polly Haddow, education coordinator at the FBR, under financial sponsorship of the National Foundation — March of Dimes. Participants from the FBR included Dr. Thomas Brewster and Dr. James Haddow, Mrs. Haddow and Edward M. Kloza, director of the Alpha Fetoprotein project, FBR.



"Let's put it this way, doc. If the current therapy doesn't pull her through, my colleagues and I feel a transplant would be strongly indicated."



NEW FAMILY PRACTICE HOME?—It could be, said architects last week after a study of the former Central Fire Station on Congress Street. Many approvals are necessary, but they could result in the present MMC Family Practice Center at India and Congress moving down the street to the new location. (A/V Photo)

Smoking committee gets mixed result

The new Smoking Policy and Education Committee was handed a mixed bag of comments in response to its request last week for guidance from Department Heads on smoking areas throughout the hospital.

The department heads were asked to add or subtract from the list of areas where smoking now is okay. Some added, some subtracted, and at least two said it was an exercise in futility.

"Lack of enforcement," one said, "makes this much ado about nothing."

And another added this:

"If big industries can ban smoking, why can't we, an institution dedicated to health care and prevention of disease?"

The committee's request was the first step in efforts to establish a hospital-wide program to enforce smoking bans in all but authorized areas. It was made in response to a June vote of the MMC Medical Staff "to institute a stringent smoking policy that should be strictly enforced."

These recommendations and other changes offered by department heads will be considered by the committee, which now includes smokers as well as

non-smokers, and a new policy will result.

Meanwhile, the committee said, kits are available in the Outpatient Department for employees who would like to stop smoking, and additional help is on the way from the American Cancer Society and the Maine Lung Association. They'll run stop-smoking programs here, they said last week, if there's enough interest.

Engineering memo makes it official

Long-range forecasts and Farmers' Almanacs notwithstanding, it isn't really close to winter until Ted Hollidge, MMC director of Engineering Services, issues his Memo about "Snow Plowing Procedures."

It happened—just as it does every year—last Thursday, and here it is, chillingly verbatim:

"At the onset of the snowfall, we start to plow, sand and salt in the following locations: The Bramhall Entrance, Emergency Entrance, Gilman Street Entrance, Admitting Entrance, receiving area, NDF Entrance as well as priority No. 1 fire exits. During the course of a snowfall, our major goal will be to keep the Emergency Entrance open with clear access to the parking ramp so that personnel coming to work will be able to

Study indicates fire station o.k. for health uses

A study has confirmed that Portland's unused Central Fire Station is sound and could be renovated and used as a combined City Health facility and as Maine Medical Center's Family Practice unit.

But MMC Vice President Donald Nicoll and David Bittenbender, the city's health director, said there are several hurdles the plan must negotiate before it becomes a reality.

There must be "discussion in the community," Nicoll said, then the move must be approved by the City Council, the MMC Board of Trustees, the Maine Health Systems Agency, the Department of Human Services, and even the Maine Legislature, which must free land dedicated for use as a fire station or a park.

Then, Nicoll said, the money must be found.

No costs have been determined, and no dates set for the various boards to meet and discuss the possibility.

About half of the former fire station would be used by MMC for its Family Practice Residency training activities which would be moved from the present facility at Congress and India Streets. The remaining part of the building would be used by the various offices and clinics of the City Health Department.

find parking out of the weather. If necessary, in order to insure the use of the Emergency Entrance and access to the ramp, we plow Gilman and Charles Streets.

"As we get ahead of a storm and clean-up progresses, we will plow the Holt Hall Entrance and the carport and finish fire exits, Leighton House, Thomas House, Chisholm House, walks and drives, and the diagnostic facility roof.

"As a final step, we will clear all oil fill tanks, clean drains, and fill sand containers. If necessary, we will use contractors with heavy equipment to haul away snow piled on the grounds. Also for the benefit of our personnel, we will salt and sand the pedestrian entrances at all shift changes during a storm."

Christmas sale is "going well"

Mrs. James Flaker, chairman of the Christmas Sale of the Women's Board of Maine General Hospital, said this week the sale is "going well," with its selection of gifts, holiday specialties and decorations attracting a lot of attention.

The sale, annually about this time in Admitting Lobby, is a fund-raising project of the Women's Board, which recently pledged more than \$50,000 to the Cancer Radiation Treatment Fund. The new 20 MeV linear accelerator for the Southern Maine Radiation Therapy Institute will be purchased and installed with these funds.

Mrs. Wallace Camp is serving as co-chairman of the sale, which runs through Dec. 1.



SIGN UP NOW

for

PERSONAL FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMS

Part I, Nov. 29

Part II, Dec. 10

4-6 p.m.

NDF Classrooms

Details, Call 2824

thanks....

A great big thank you to the entire staff of R5 for the superb nursing care extended to me this past week. Seldom does one find such warm, friendly, efficient and dedicated nurses all in one spot—keep up the good work, you are a real credit to your profession.

Thanks again.

Bonnie Frustaci, LPN

Show 1980 license

Miss Agnes Flaherty, RN, associate vice president for Nursing, has asked us to stress this week that registered nurses must show 1980 license to practice nursing in Maine to the Head Nurse/designee prior to December 31, 1979. To work even one day without having recorded the current license would be in violation of the Maine Law regulating the practice of nursing, she said.

marketplace

FOR RENT: One bdrm., large, sunny apt. with working frpl., newly decorated, heat and all utils. inc. \$300/mo. Lease & sec. dep. Call 772-4417.

FOR RENT: Large 2 bdrm. apt., newly decorated, heat and all utils. inc. in \$325/mo. Lease and sec. dep. Large fenced in yard & picnic area. Call 772-4417.

FOR RENT: House in Falmouth. 2 bdrms., 2 car garage, LR, kitch., study, sunporch, full basement, large lot on quiet street. \$300/mo. plus utils. Call 865-3956. 10 min. from MMC.

FOR RENT: 3 rooms, bath, stove, refrig. 3 Gilman Place, 2 min. from MMC. Adult. Deposit. \$200/mo. Call 772-2529 after 3:30 p.m.

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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 the Editor, Public Relations Dept., MMC, Portland, Me., 04102.

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FOR SALE: 1974 Saab EMS, ex. cond, new paint, tires, clutch, muffler, brakes. Call 773-2724 eves.

FOR SALE: Red '74 Audi, ex. cond., rebuilt engine and new paint job. Call 774-8821 after 6 p.m.

FOR SALE: 1971 Plymouth Fury. Call 781-3831.

FOR SALE: Man's gold ring, solitaire diamond, 85 points. Best offer. Call Ed at 871-2811.

FOR SALE: 1979 Honda Civic, 3,800 miles, AM/FM radio, rust proofed, great gas mileage, \$4,000. Call 767-2405.

WANTED: Babysitter for infant 8:30 - 5:15. So. Portland/Cape Elizabeth area. Call 799-6300 after 5 p.m.

WANTED: Roommate by Dec. 1, 1979 to share a house in So. Portland. Rent \$125/mo. plus utils. Call 767-4178.

WANTED: Ride from Gorham to MMC and back again. 7:30 - 4:00 shift. Home phone - 839-4776.

SERVICES: House, plant and/or pet sitter available during holidays or whenever after Nov. 30. Call Audrey at 892-2986.

FOR RENT: 2 apts., MMC area. Each has 4 large rooms, modern kitchen, newly renovated, 2nd and 3rd floors. No pets, \$250/mo. plus utils., sec. dep., avail. Dec. 1. Call 773-7948 after 6 p.m.

FOR SALE: Unusual, functional pottery for Christmas gifts. Peter Lindsay, 20 West St., Portland. Sale Dec. 1-2.

FOR SALE: Anderson permashield window 3 x 7', \$100. Call 657-2104.

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