

what's happening

Maine Medical Center
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Maine Association for Human Genetics attacks state-industry spray policies

A group of Maine physicians and scientists last week declared that "those responsible for deploying chemical agents in vast quantities should be aware that they may be held responsible for future medical consequences."

Members of the Maine Association for Human Genetics attacked the state industry program of wholesale spraying of insecticides to combat the spruce budworm, use of herbicide sprays, and general use of other chemicals whose long-term effects on humans is unknown.

The Association charged that Maine's most extensive spray program—the recent Spruce Budworm project—was undertaken "with minimal scientific input from within the state relative to its potential human health hazards."

In a statement, the Association said improved epidemiological and health-monitoring methods now show that some chemical agents produce ill effects many years after original deployment. "The time is long overdue," the statement said, "for a wide-ranging, open discussion and clarification of the potential grave hazards of the increasing environmental use of chemicals and other agents."

Such discussion, the statement said, "should result in specific recommendations: procedures with respect to pregnant women in spray areas; a general policy for the environmental use of chemicals and other agents; and a procedure for handling prospective environmental use of chemicals and other agents in Maine."

The Association statement included a series of recommendations to the Maine Department of Human Services. One urged that "certain defined substances not be used anywhere in Maine that might result in exposing pregnant women and others through air, water or food.

These substances, the statement said, "include those which have been demonstrated to be toxic or teratogenic (causing deformity) in mammals, and those which have a strongly implied toxicity because of their chemical similarity to known toxic substances."

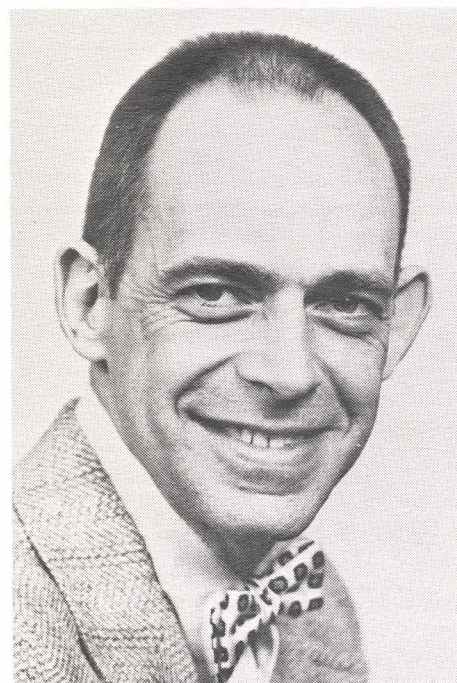
The Association called for legislation, if necessary, requiring the Maine Department of Human Services to obtain expert testimony on the toxicity, teratogenicity and long-term health hazards of any chemical agent proposed for environmental use. The Association said that when the department has concerns, it should be empowered to prohibit use of the substance in question.

MMC-USM researchers join in study of CPR

A grant supported by the Maine affiliate of the American Heart Association has enabled researchers at the University of Southern Maine and the Maine Medical Center to study various mechanisms associated with Cardio-Pulmonary Resuscitation.

Dr. Brian Hodgkin, principal researcher, said the objective of the project is to determine whether CPR compresses the heart and if so, what the contributions direct compressions and increased pressure on the chest are to the production of blood flow.

Hodgkin has found in his research on the cardio-vascular system of the pig that the heart does compress and that this has an effect on the flow of blood. Hodgkin's CPR, page 2



ALBERT DIBBINS, M.D., has been named the recipient of the annual award for excellence in surgical teaching. Dibbins, attending surgeon and director of Pediatric surgery and the Intermediate Pediatric Special Care Unit, joined the MMC staff in 1974. Before coming to MMC, Dr. Dibbins served as assistant professor of Pediatric surgery at the University of Pittsburgh. He received his Doctorate in Medicine from Tufts University in 1959 and completed training in general and pediatric surgery at the Yale-New Haven Medical Center and the Children's Hospital of the University of Pittsburgh. Previous recipients of the award, established in 1974 by the Surgical house staff, have been Ferris Ray, M.D., Richard Britton, M.D., Jean Labelle, M.D. and Douglass Pennoyer, M.D.

CPR, from page 1

findings are somewhat contradictory to those of researchers at Johns Hopkins University, who feel that the increased pressure in the chest cavity is the main contributor to blood flow, not the actual compression of the heart. Hodgkin's research indicates that both the compression of the heart and the pressure inside the chest cavity effect the flow of blood during CPR.

Hodgkin has also been working on the effects of the compression and ventilation ratio currently used in CPR, which is one ventilation for five compressions. If complete exhalation of the lungs is prevented during CPR, Hodgkin finds definite improvements in oxygenation, yet no significant change in net blood flow.

Drs. Frank Lawrence and Costas Lambrew have been assisting Hodgkin in his research, which may soon progress from the laboratory experimental stages to a clinical evaluation.

Hodgkin is currently working at the Biomedical Research Institute at the Center for Research and Advanced Study at USM.

Nine new nurses start internship

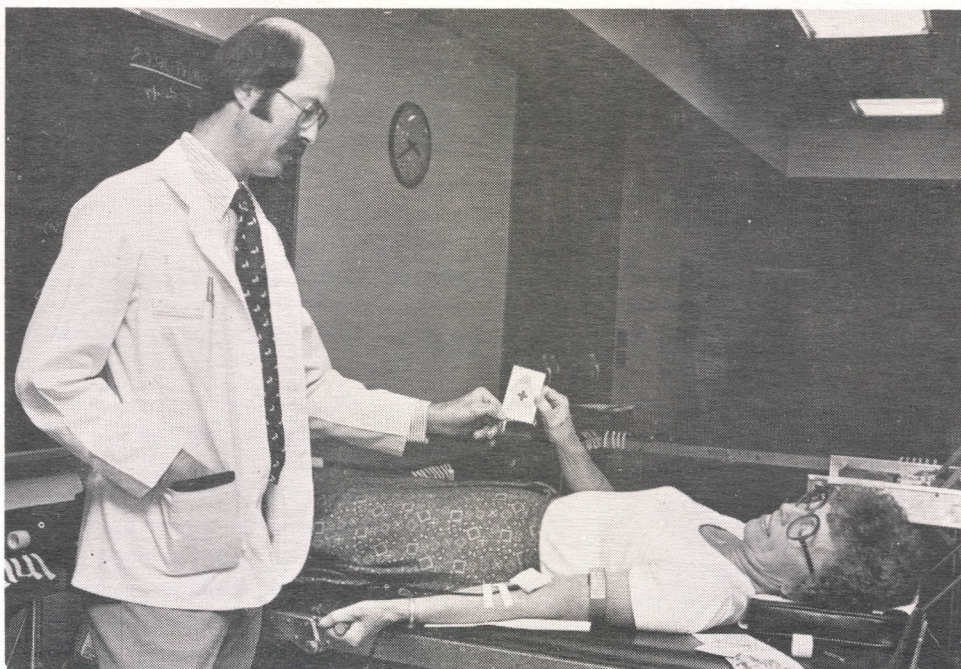
A critical-care nursing internship program—designed to train new nursing graduates for service in specialty areas of the institution—has begun with nine students.

The class will undergo a 16-week rotation on five MMC patient units before assuming staff responsibilities in SCU and the Burn Unit in early November.

Coordinator of the program is Linda Ruest, R.N., who will be assisted by staff development instructors and the following preceptors: Barbara Jackson, RN, R1; Janet Sherrer, RN, R2; Debbie Rousseau, RN, R3; Resa Peterson, RN, R7; and Debbie Aylward, RN, pediatrics.

Enrolled in the program are Graduate Nurses Susan Rowe, Greg Cyr, Heidi Shaw, Cliff Vaux and Isla Estabrook, all from USM; Leroy Ouellette, UM Augusta; Ann Pooler, Westbrook College; Lynn Buchanan, Eastern Maine Medical Center; and Ann Atherton, University of Rochester, N.Y.

Old-timers, first-timers, walk-ins boost blood inventory by 100 pints



THREE GALLONS is the career blood donor record of Marge Harris, who was congratulated by chairman Bill Gousse as she donated a final pint last week in the MMC summer blood drawing. The drawing, which attracted 99 other contributors, was in Marge's honor, recognizing her long service as MMC Blood Donor Recruitment Committee chairman. (A/V Photo)

Maine Medical Center donors added an even 100 pints to the inventory of the Red Cross Blood Services last week and the new chairman of the MMC Donor Recruitment Committee expressed his gratitude and the appreciation of the institution.

Bill Gousse, assistant director of the MMC Pharmacy and chairman of the MMC Blood Donor Recruitment Committee, said the 100-pint total was "remarkable for several reasons, and a credit to the hospital."

"First," he said, "100 pints is excellent for the summer drawing, when many MMC people are on vacation. Then the fact that there were 22 first-time donors, a total that would have been gratifying even in a winter drive," he said.

"Finally, the fact that a phenomenal total of 35 of the donors last week had not made appointments, but merely walked in and were drawn," Gousse said.

The walk-in group included at least three visitors...the father of a child in Pediatrics who saw the signs and decided to volunteer, and two brothers who

had come to MMC Friday to see a hospitalized parent.

The drive was billed as the "Thank-You-Marge Harris Blood Drive" in recognition of the many years of service as Blood Donor Recruitment Chairman of Marjorie W. Harris, former assistant director of Public Relations. Mrs. Harris, now executive director of the Maine Dental Association, was on hand for the drawing, donating the final pint of her three-gallon career record.

Gousse expressed his gratitude and the appreciation of the Medical Center to all 100 donors—old-timers, first-timers and walk-ins—for the success of the drive.

PICTURES SOUGHT

Art reproductions and other paintings or photographs suitable for framing are being sought by the Volunteer Department, which is being asked for decorative material by several hospital departments.

They ask that WHAT'S HAPPENING readers donate such pictures, framed or not, for use in various areas of the MMC complex.

New nursing dean assumes USM post

Audrey J. Conley, RN, Ph.D., has assumed her post as dean of the School of Nursing of the University of Southern Maine.

Dean Conley has been dean of the College of Nursing and director of nursing at Downstate Medical Center, State University of New York, and a member of the staff since 1968. Before that, she was assistant director of the National League of Nursing and a member of the faculty at Rutgers State University, New Jersey, John Marshall University, West Virginia, and Northern Illinois University.

Dean Conley earned her Master of Science degree at Case Western Reserve University in 1957 and was awarded her doctorate in educational administration from Teacher's College, Columbia University, in 1972.

She is a member of several professional associations including the American Nurses Association, the American Association of University Professors, and the American Association of Colleges of Nursing.



A NURSING SCHOLARSHIP check from the Elizabeth A. Hargitt Nursing Student Fund was presented to Claire O'Donnell, LPN, a part-time MMC employee and full-time Westbrook College Nursing student, last week by Lois Bazinet, RN. Associate Vice president Agnes Flaherty, RN, right, expressed her good wishes. (A/V Photo)

ID card, name pin plan ineffect

Dr. Boyd appointed Hematology Director

A new division director and four assistant chiefs have been appointed by action of the Executive Committee of the Medical Staff.

MARJORIE BOYD, M.D., has been named director, division of Hematology; WALTER CHRISTY, M.D., has been appointed assistant chief, dept. of Psychiatry; HAROLD OSHER, M.D., has been appointed assistant chief, dept. of Medicine; THOMAS BIGOS, M.D., has been named assistant director, division of Endocrinology; and DONALD LEEBER, M.D., has been named assistant director, division of Nephrology.

VOLUNTEERS SOUGHT

Carolyn Ski, a research assistant in the Obstetrics-Gynecology department, is engaged in a two-year study of a new, low-dose oral contraceptive, and needs women participants age 18-38 with regular menstrual periods and in good health with no significant past illness or disease. They will receive medication without charge, and all follow-up clinic visits and special tests related to the study will be free.

Interested candidates may call Ms. Ski at 2749.



RECENT GRADUATES of the Medical Technology Program are, standing, from left, Mary Anne Stolt, Portsmouth, New Hampshire; Stephen Woodsum, South Portland; Phyllis Bryson, Portland; Thomas Moody, Waterboro; Nancy Thurston, Auburn; Daniel Gibson, Milton, Vermont; Cathy Brewer, Presque Isle; Rickie Guilmet, Danvers, Mass; Theresa Dubail, Portland. Seated, Tina Giarraputo, Portland; Therese Bolduc, Cumberland Center; Nancy Middlebrook, Needham Heights, Mass; Debora Allen, Cumberland Center; and Mary Anne Palman, Portland. (A/V Photo)

EAC slates deep-sea fishing trip Saturday

Ed (Salty Dog) Meehan of the Employee Activity Committee has scheduled an all-day deep-sea fishing trip Saturday, July 21, aboard the "Freeman Clark."

Capt. Dave Sleeper, Ed says, will supply poles, bait, coffee and donuts. Participants must bring everything else, plus lunch and dramamine. (Ed recommends dramamine two hours before boarding.)

The "Freeman Clark" will leave the first slip at Central wharf, just behind the Harris Company, at 9 a.m.

Call Ed at 2307 if you'd like to go along.

marketplace

FOR SALE: Duplex house, 48 Kenwood St. near USM. Enjoy 3 bdrm. single home with duplex income. Finished playroom, den, fireplaces, 2 car garage, near schools and buses. Many custom features. Ex. cond. Mid '70's. Call 774-7304.

FOR SALE: New Vivitar 200mm lens, f 3.5, Canon mount. Ex. cond. Call 797-2285 after noon or contact Nancy Garber in the Nursing Office.

FOR SALE: 3 cushion Herculon covered sofa, 4 years old, \$400 new, asking \$150 or best offer. Call 284-7293.

FOR SALE: Picture window 9x4½ thermopane w/crank-out side windows. Cook stove - gas, 5 burner, rotisserie and griddle. Franklin stove. Call 892-3094. Prices negotiable.

FOR SALE: 14 foot O'Day Javelin. Ex. cond. Motor, trailer and mooring. \$1850.00. Call Mike at 729-3328.

FOR RENT: 8 room house on waterfront. Mod. appliances, private drive. Avail. after Labor Day. \$150/mo. per person. Pay lights. Call Mrs. Berlin at 934-4966.

WILL BABYSIT: Mature adult experienced with both children and the elderly available to babysit Mon. - Fri. eves. during the summer; Fri. - Sun. days and evenings during the winter. \$2.00/hour plus 15¢/mile. Call 773-7740 eves.

FOR RENT: Townhouse condominium, 2 bdrms., 1½ baths, ex. storage, 1 car garage, elec. heat. Avail. July 10. \$425/mo. plus util. 1 mo. sec. dep., 1 year lease. Colonial Village, Falmouth. Call Gene Cote, 799-5000.

FOR RENT: 3-4 bdrm. house, Vaughan St., Aug. 15 - May 15. \$350/mo. plus util. Sec. dep. and refs. req. Call 772-8572.

FOR RENT: 2 bdrm. apt. with fireplace. \$210/mo. plus elec. heat. One bedroom apt. \$190/mo. plus elec. heat. Both with parking and laundry area, located across from Mercy Hospital. Call Sally Hamilton, 799-4341.

FOR RENT: 3 bdrm. cottage with fireplace on shorefront lot with dock and sandy beach. Has telephone. \$150/week. Call 892-8911.

FOR RENT: 3 rooms and bath, heat, light, gas, hot water. 3 Gilman Place, 2 mins. from MMC, parking, adult, deposit, \$185/mo. Call 772-2529.

FOR SALE: Male golden retriever pups, AKC reg., good lines and temperament. \$125. Call 774-6521.

FOR SALE: Modern free standing fireplace (Franklin) w/stove pipe and metal asbestos chimney that will adjust to fit any roof angle, will sell separately. Call 773-6017 after 4 p.m.

WANTED: Young, professional couple with quiet, well-mannered dog and cat seeking apt. or house to rent in Portland or surrounding area. Contact Andre d'Hemecourt, M.D., dept. of Surgery or dept. of Medical Education.

FOR SALE: So. Portland 2 bdrm. ranch. Vinyl siding, fenced yard, all electric, 36,700. Call 774-2735.

FOR RENT: Three 3 room apts. near MMC, 2 have fireplaces, rent of \$75/week includes everything. Security dep., ref. req. Call Paula at 883-9295.

FOR SALE: 1974 5 passenger van. Slant 6, regular gas, 21 mpg. AM/FM stereo cassette, ex. cond. \$2200. Call 797-8191.

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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.

Contributors to this issue:

Charlotte L. Hurd, A/V Resources
Judy MacKenzie, A/V Resources
Bonnie Scarpelli, A/V Resources
David Higgins, A/V Resources
George A. Drew, Print Shop
Henry J. Guidod, Jr., Print Shop
Susan Hosmer, Public Relations
Joyce Swearingen, Public Relations

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William Alley

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Janet DiMillo

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JUST A REMINDER:

Dolores Norton, chief telephone operator, would like to remind everyone to insert the new radio page directory for the house staff in their telephone directories.