

# WHAT'S

mmmc

PUBLIC RELATIONS DEPARTMENT  
MAINE MEDICAL CENTER  
PORTLAND, MAINE 04102

# HAPPENING

Vol. 9, No. 51

July 19, 1978



**A CHECK FOR THE BURN UNIT** was presented to Head Nurse Jan Thompson last week by Charles Redstone, who represented Commander Lloyd Trufant of VFW Post 832 in South Portland. Members of the Unit raised the \$380 through a series of events to make their second annual gift to the Burn Unit. (A/V Photo)

## 4TH YEAR ROTATIONS TOPPED 70 IN 1977-78

Fourth-year rotations in a wide range of medical specialties brought more than 70 students to Maine Medical Center during the past academic year.

The students, representing 34 medical schools throughout the U.S., broke MMC records, enrolling in month-long programs that provided the clinical experience required by the fourth-year medical school curriculum.

Dr. Albert Aranson, MMC Medical  
**ROTATIONS, page 2**

## 'Imagination Important'

## SOCIAL SERVICES ACCOMPLISHES MANY VARIED, VITAL TASKS FOR PATIENTS

There are booklets for children that describe, very simply, a stay in the hospital. It means packing your teddy bear and pajamas, sharing a room with other children, having the doctor fix your broken leg or take out your tonsils, then going home and having all the ice cream you want.

Unfortunately, it's not always that simple. There may be problems that make having to go into the hospital disastrous, such as financial disability or having persons dependent upon you at home. And post-hospitalization care may require equipment, transportation or supervision that is not readily available.

MMC's department of Social Services exists for these kinds of situations and countless others. Their staff of 30 social workers—all trained to assist with any problems related to a patient's medical/social needs—plays a very important part in the hospital's total treatment team.

Administrator Edward J. McGeachey, who is also director of Social Services, says that the MMC social worker's role is hard to define since the duties are so varied. "You'll get a different viewpoint from everyone," he says, "depending on what the social worker has done for them. Basically, Social Services tries to be aware of problems that exist prior to or on a patient's admission, formulating a flexible plan to meet their needs, and to continue planning as long as the patient remains a responsibility of the hospital, ensuring that care is continued upon discharge."

The MMC social workers are assigned to various areas both in and outside the hospital, depending upon

their areas of expertise and experience.

The bulk of the Social Service man-

**SOCIAL SERVICES, page 2**



**A MEMBER OF THE IN-HOUSE Social Services staff, Jeannie Coughlin, ASW, discusses a patient with a family member in her office. Jeannie works with patients on Medical/Surgical Nursing Units. (A/V Photo)**



## SOCIAL SERVICES, from page 1

power goes to Community Health Services, with locations at Holt Hall, P6, and the Therapeutic Nursery on High St., where social workers deal intensively with emotionally-disturbed children and their parents. The divisions of Community Mental Health include Emergency and Consultation, Inpatient, Outpatient (both adult and children), and Partial Care. "The main function of the CMH team is to offer therapy for the problems of patients and their families," McGeachey says.

The in-house quota of social workers, whose main office is on the 2nd floor, annex B, of the Maine General building, has its numbers distributed in relation to defined needs. In Rehabilitation, for example, because most of the patients there have had a major change in their lifestyle, a full-time social worker is always in attendance. MMC's Emergency department requires the services of two covering 14 hours of service. Other units rarely call upon Social Services—because, as McGeachey explains, "often the hospital service itself takes care of the patient's needs, or his family structure and ability to adjust are such that he needs no assistance."

The job of the social worker—that of assisting with almost any type of personal, social and sometimes emotional problems—is certainly one of the Medical Center's most challenging. It calls for a great deal of perception and a basic awareness of community resources, the social worker's valuable tool. Many of the patients' problems can be solved by tapping any number of existing community services, such as home health care programs, financial assistance institutions and health service agencies, "and of course," says McGeachey, "any other resource that a social worker can dream up. Imagination is very important."

Because of a cooperative effort on behalf of all hospital areas, it is seldom that a problem goes undetected by Social Services. Consultations with physicians and others involved in a patient's care, as well as team conferences, says McGeachey, keeps the social workers on top of things. And part of their responsibility is to see that no patient goes home without some plan for discharge.

"We're concerned with relieving any problems that would interfere



**FAMILY MEMBERS** of the late Dr. Robert M. Morrison joined Dr. Andrews last week to view a plaque that will be placed in the new family delivery room in memory of the well-known obstetrician who died in 1976. The group includes his parents, Mr. and Mrs. James M. Morrison of Portland, Mrs. Morrison and children Susan, Stacy, Dina and Brett.

(A/V Photo)

with a patient's overall recovery," he says. "As social workers, we want to make sure that when it's time for a patient to go home, his life will not only resume, but will be as productive as possible."

## FAMILY, FRIENDS SEE DR. MORRISON PLAQUE

Family members and hospital associates gathered in President Andrews' office Thursday to see a plaque that will be placed in the new family labor and delivery room in memory of Dr. Robert Morrison.

The plaque notes that the new facility on P4CD was equipped and decorated with funds from Dr. Morrison's family and friends, from the National Foundation of the March of Dimes and from the FRIENDS of Maine Medical Center.

Dr. Morrison, a member of the MMC Medical Staff since 1962, died in Portland Sept. 8, 1976. He was an active obstetrician-gynecologist, a graduate of Bowdoin College and McGill University School of Medicine.

Among those attending the event Thursday were his widow, MRs. Beverly W. Morrison, children Susan, Brett, Stacy and Dina; and his parents, Mr. and Mrs. James M. Morrison of Portland.

## ROTATIONS, from page 1

Education director, said the hospital attracted 56 students for similar rotations in the previous year. He attributed the increase to MMC's increasing national reputation as a teaching hospital.

He explained that last year's fourth-year students were in addition to 90 young doctors enrolled in MMC residencies of up to five years' duration, and 16 students from Tufts University School of Medicine who spend their entire third year at MMC.

Dr. Aranson said the Medical Center continues to serve as the state's principal source of physicians, with 14 of this year's graduates of MMC residency programs electing to establish practices or join hospital staffs in Maine. He said four others intend to return to Maine after further subspecialty training or military service commitments.

The MMC Education Chief said a full quarter of the present Maine Medical Association membership are alumni of MMC residencies.

## AH.....LIFE!

Nothing is ever as bad as you think it's going to be...sometimes it's worse!



# New Nurse Internship Program Prepares G.N.'s For MMC Duties

A group of seven recent graduates of college nursing programs, who have accepted positions as float nurses at MMC, began a 16-week internship program last week. The participants in the new Nursing department program will receive intensive training to prepare for the responsibilities of a professional nurse on the MMC staff. Following completion of the internship, the nurses will have acquired the skills needed to work on all but the most specialized units.

The concept of an internship program for nurses was developed about 10 years ago and an experimental program was tried at the Medical Center between Sept., 1973, and April, 1977. Objectives of the current program, which began June 30, include giving the new graduates—who have limited experience in terms of techniques, interpersonal relationships and leadership skills—directed experiences in these areas.

Program Coordinator Jessie Dennett, RN, who formerly held a head nurse position at MMC, is planning the internship program with Nursing Staff Development. Five preceptors—from R1, R2, R3, R7 and Pediatrics—will work closely with the seven graduates

and will continuously evaluate the nurses as they rotate through the clinical areas. The experience on each unit will be planned by the preceptor with assistance from the clinical assistant director of Nursing, the head nurse and the assistant head nurse.

Serving as preceptors are Lynn Konieczko, RN; Cheryl Goddard, RN; Pat Cahill, RN; Barbara Jackson, RN; and Peggy Fournier, RN.

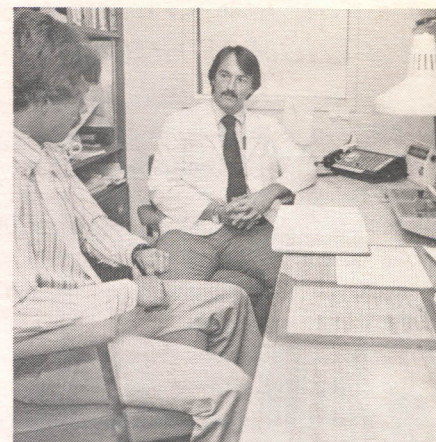
The nursing interns are Margaret Caprio, GN; Andrea York, GN; Kathy Kennedy, GN; Heidi Snow, GN; Colleen Noyes, GN; Laura Warren, GN; and Ann Barry, GN.

## BETTER BREATHING CLUB MEETS TONIGHT

"Effective Cough Techniques" will be the subject of a presentation tonight by the Greater Portland Better Breathing Club at MMC.

The meeting will be held in Classroom 2 at 7 pm. Physical Therapist Meridith Elcomb and Respiratory Nurse Specialist Christine Hanscome will demonstrate and explain ways to cough without tiring.

For people with breathing difficulties, learning how to cough correctly and effectively is essential.



**THE POISON CONTROL CENTER'S first pharmacist, Leo Millette, Pharm. D., confers with Mark Horr, EMT, one of the Center's staff members. Work in the PCC will be only one of Dr. Millette's MMC duties, which will include teaching and consultation, and supervising REMIS. (A/V Photo)**

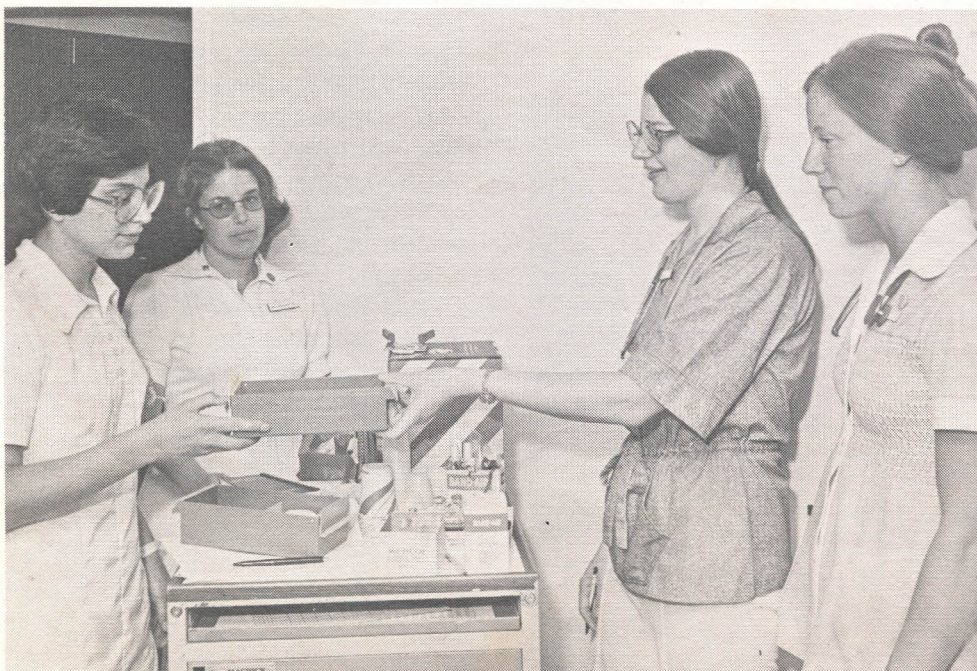
## Pharmacist Heads MMC Poison Center

A pharmacist has joined the staff of Maine's Poison Control Center, says MMC Director of Emergency Services Frank Lawrence, MD.

Leo Millette, Pharm. D., began his duties last week as the new supervisor of the PCC, bringing to the Medical Center nearly two years of clinical pharmacy experience in Massachusetts hospitals. In addition to his supervisory capacity here at MMC, Dr. Millette will provide pharmacy-related in-service education to hospital employees, such as the Emergency Medical Technicians and members of the Pharmacy department.

Dr. Lawrence said that Dr. Millette will also oversee the Regional Emergency Medical Information System (REMIS), which is expected to assume full operation this Fall. It is designed to improve rescue operations through use of modern communication methods and new equipment like telemetry units, and will call for additional training for EMT's, in which Dr. Millette will take an active part.

A graduate of the University of Maine's Zoology program, Dr. Millette received his B.S. and doctorate in Pharmacy at the Massachusetts College of Pharmacology. He is a Biddeford native and now resides with his wife in Old Orchard Beach.



**MEDICATIONS ARE CHECKED** as part of the 4-month internship training now underway for seven graduate nurses. Cheryl Goddard, RN, second from right, nursing preceptor for the R3 unit, and Instructor Jessie Dennett, RN, second left, work with graduate nurses Margaret Caprio, far left, and Andrea York, far right. (A/V Photo)



## DEVELOPMENT MOVES TO THOMAS HOUSE

After five and one half years on the first floor of the Maine General building, the MMC Development Office moved last week to new quarters on the first floor of the Thomas House, at the corner of West Street and the Western Promenade, on block beyond the Hospital complex.

The Development Office will keep the same MMC address and telephone number (871-2669). As usual, it will be open for business from 8 to 5, Mondays through Fridays, and it continues to encourage, receive, and process a wide range of gifts to MMC via the Annual Fund, Memorial Fund, and many other special purpose funds.

## MARKETPLACE

**FOR SALE:** 1977 Toyota Celica, silver w/ black vinyl roof, 12,000 mi., 8 mo. old. \$4195. Call 883-2716.

**FOR SALE:** 1974 Honda XL 250, 3200 mi. Silver, ex. cond. \$595. Call 883-2716.

**FOR SALE:** Ludwig drum set, 4-pc. w/2 cymbals. \$475. Call 883-2716.

**FOR RENT:** Apt., 48 Kenwood St., near UMP. spacious 6-rm., 3-bdrms., duplex, 1½ baths, fireplace, garage. Adults, lease & ref. required. Call 774-7304.

**FOR SALE:** 1977 Volare Premier wagon, slant six, low mileage, metallic blue w/ woodgrain paneling, AM/FM quad radio, new radials. Priced under book. Call Mary during workday at 775-3401.

**WANTED:** Used refrigerator in good working cond. Contact the Flower Box, (2771) or Mrs. Perry at 799-1367.

**FREE TO CONFIRMED CAT-LOVER:** 5-yr. old gentle, spayed female cat. Owner leaving the country, must find home for cat by mid-August. 773-6388.

**FOR SALE:** Camp, Little Sebago Lake, 4-bdrms., 2 baths, water supply, 10 yrs. old, never rented. Year round road, maintained. Tennis courts nearby. Call for appointment, 655-3581 or 854-8019.

**FOR SALE:** Acre of land, Prides Corner, Westbrook, Austin St. ext. Call for appointment. 655-3581 or 854-8019.

**FOR SALE:** 1971 Delta 88. Dk. green, white top, white interior, clean, ex. cond. Must see to appreciate. \$995. Call 773-2278 between 4 and 6 pm.

**FOR RENT:** 2nd floor apt. near MMC, 5-rms., 1 or 2 bdrms., stove & refrig., heated. Adults, no pets, \$200 mo. Call Donna in EHO or 774-0733 after 8 pm.

**FOR SALE:** 1971 Tempest station wagon, 8-cyl., PS/PB, AC, good tires, snows, well-maintained. Contact Dr. White, Anesthesia, or at 799-7264.

**FOR SALE:** 6-string Yamaha, FG-75, guitar & case, brand new, never used. \$125. Call 854-9168.

**FOR SALE:** 1971 Toyota Corolla, 32,000 mi., good cond., \$1600. Call Dr. Michael Curci, 883-4702.

**FOR SALE:** 1971 Datsun 610 wagon, new paint job, new transmission, new tires. 53,000 mi., standard trans. \$1600. Call 774-6017 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 Relations Dept., MMC, Portland, Me., 04102.

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**FREE!** 3 golden-Labrador Retrievers. Call 781-5486, ask for Terry or Phil.

**FOR SALE:** 1978 Ford F-150, 6-cyl., 4 sp. w/OD, PS, PB, AM/FM, cassette tape deck. Call 892-2073.

## LINGUISTS NEEDED

Within minutes, one noon last week, we had requests for interpreters to help patients who spoke only French and Spanish.

The French interpreter was easy. We have 14 on the MMC language back list, and the first called agreed to help. The Spanish interpreter was not as easy. Of the four on the list, three work nights, and one had left MMC employment.

But we asked the page operator to help, and within minutes, we had added three new Spanish interpreters to our list, and the patient's needs were being met.

This leads us to suspect there are many others at MMC who could help with language problems, and we'd like to improve our language bank lists.

If you can interpret—call 2196.

## ABOUT PEOPLE

On July 11, Director of Development Peter C. Barnard was at Boston College to address a nation-wide group on annual giving programs. This is the second year he has participated as a member of the Guest Faculty of the Fund-Raising School, which holds regular seminars and workshops in Boston and California.



**AT MORNING REPORT**, one day last week, the Nursing/Administration group had refreshments and surprise gifts for Dr. Douglass W. Walker, who inaugurated the daily sessions eight years ago, and who retired from his post of Vice President, Medical Affairs, Friday. (A/V Photo)