



# WHAT'S HAPPENING...

PUBLIC RELATIONS DEPARTMENT ■ MAINE MEDICAL CENTER ■ PORTLAND, MAINE 04102  
May 6, 1974

## THE UNIT DOSE SYSTEM

Department heads were told Thursday that the manner in which nurses dispense medications at MMC will change this week for the first time in 100 years. Director of Pharmacy Services Robert R. Auger and Pauline Fahey, R.N., assistant director of Nursing, explained the new Unit Dose medication system which will be in effect on Richards One Tuesday, then later in other patient areas. Essentially, each patient's daily requirements will be prepared in advance by the Pharmacy, delivered in specially designed, individualized boxes in the unit's own medications cart, and dispensed directly by the medication nurse at the patient's bedside. They listed the advantages as follows: improvement of nursing personnel utilization; virtual elimination of medication waste; and minimum possibility of medication errors.

In use at many of the nation's major hospitals, the new system has been developed over the past year by Bill Gousse, assistant director of Pharmacy Services, other Pharmacy and Nursing personnel and with the support of the Medical Staff and Administration.

## SCREENING FOR SMOKERS

Dr. Edgar J. Caldwell, director of Pulmonary Medicine and one of the most energetic supporters of the MMC Please-Don't-Smoke campaign, has offered to lend real help to the effort by providing free pulmonary disease screening for employees. Smokers--or employees who may have inherited a tendency to chronic obstructive lung disease--are urged to participate in the screening so that proper care or preventive measures may be recommended. Appointments, which must be limited to five daily, may be arranged between 8 and 9 a.m., Monday through Friday, by calling 2662.

## NEW APPOINTMENT

Executive Housekeeper Marian Bates has announced the appointment of Mrs. Hope Woodbury as evening Housekeeping supervisor effective May 1. Mrs. Bates also announced that Philip Terrano will become a day assistant housekeeping manager on the retirement of Miss Dora Johnson, June 28.

## NEEDLING NEEDLES

Entries in the Safety Committee/Employees Activity Committee contest for a slogan or idea to promote proper disposal of needles were judged last week with a Housekeeping employee, Rita Johnson, declared the winner. Mrs. Johnson received a \$10 first prize for the following:

Break all the needles,  
Put them in a box,  
Then the other employees  
Won't get caught.

Runners-up, in order, were entries submitted by Nancy Woodward and Carol Maynard, P3A, and Ed Hall, assistant Housekeeper.

## ALUMNAE TO MEET

Graduates of the Maine Medical Center School of Nursing are planning the annual banquet Friday, June 21, at the Stagecoach, South Portland. Guests of honor will include Miss Ella Mae Grace, school nurse; Miss Gladys Marston, instructor; Mrs. Carolyn Perkins, recruitment official, and Miss Edith Doane, former MMC Director of Nursing. Treasurer Ann Gagnon, 121 Field Road, Falmouth, is taking reservations. This year's Reunion classes are 1954, 1959 and 1963.

## TO ITEMS OF INTEREST

We couldn't resist passing along these reports: Security Chief Sam Cummings fast-talked his way out of a traffic ticket last Tuesday when he was accused of going through a red light. Then, Dr. Alan Elkins, chief of Psychiatry, was seen leaving the hospital with his couch. Miss Agnes Flaherty, director of Nursing, suggested that maybe he was going on a house call.

# . . . all in the family

## NEWSY NOTES

The EAC food sale April 17 netted a \$78 profit and Mrs. Ginny Charlton, Cardiology, won the fruit basket from Shaw's. The profit will be used by the Employees Activity Committee for placement of the Maine General Hospital keystone in an area near the MGH building and planting of appropriate shrubs and flowers.

Gertrude Hansen, Nursing Office, and Peg Bailey, assistant supervisor, Cafeteria, took a weekend cruise on the Prince of Fundy. They must be real sailors, for despite rough waters, they refused to get seasick.

Nancy Stearns, Physical Therapy, recently returned from an exciting two weeks in Hawaii.

Dr. Zerner and wife are in England for 10 days and all the postcards indicate they're having a grand time.

## P2D REPORTS

Patricia Churchill, R.N., left MMC recently to work with Dr. Sara Cope.

Dr. Hallett was seen on the Western Prom recently during lunch on one of those real sunny days having a sunshine break.

Unit Clerk Julie Strump recently tore the cartilage in her knee while going for a basket, but, hurrah, the cast is off and Julie will soon be scooting back down the court.

## P3CD REPORTS

Debbie Harris, N.A., was married last Saturday and those attending declare she was a beautiful bride. Congratulations!

Mrs. Roberta Donnin, R.N., had a lovely baby boy on April 28.

## P4D REPORTS

Fran Robinson, R.N., and Phyllis Tryon, C.N.M., are in Las Vegas for an NACOG Convention. We hope the meeting is successful and they come home with their pockets full!

Margaret Small, N.A., on P4D returned to work April 29 from her honeymoon and is now Mrs. Bergeron. She was feted at a kitchen shower by the staff of P4D on April 18.

Miriam Nelson, R.N., who works evenings in the NICU is vacationing in the Grand Canyon with her family.

**A THOUGHT!**  
Give blood! It was meant to circulate!

## EMERGENCY ROOM REPORTS

The EmD recently broke their own record by treating 190 patients in one day.

Carol Tracy has returned from vacationing in Puerto Rico.

Dr. Phelps Carter has also been off basking in the sun in Jamaica.

Betsy Hyett, R.N., has left EmD to join the OPD staff in Medical Clinic.

## WANTED, SALE OR TRADE

**WANTED:** Good used electric refrigerator. Please call 774-9035 after 5 p.m.

**WANTED:** 2 bdrm apartment for 2 girls, furnished, parking if possible. Call 883-2771 after 5 p.m.

**WANTED:** Small hauling trailer & hitch. Reasonable price, contact Pat or Ralph O'Brien, Housekeeping.

**WANTED:** Good used baby furniture - crib, dressing table, playpen, etc. Contact Mary in EEG lab.

**WANTED:** Boston or Hitchcock type rocking chair or wooden type to refinish. See Lora Coffin, Business Office.

**FOR SALE:** 15 ft. fiberglass, double-hull boat with full canopy, 75hp Evinrude & trailer. \$895. Contact Norm Boucher, Print Shop, or call 799-8749 after 5 p.m.

**FOR SALE:** 35 mm F2.8 Petri camera, 75 range finder - \$60 / Square Shooter with carrying case, nearly new, \$14. Call Marjorie McAloney, Emergency, at 854-4150.

**FOR SALE:** Suzuki 125 cc motorcycle, excellent condition, still on warranty, \$475 or best offer. Call 799-5160.

**FOR SALE:** Adult tricycle, like new, used twice. See L. Burton, Admin., or call 774-9088 after 6 p.m.

**FOR SALE:** 110 lb. weight set w/2 barbells \$25. Advent Model 201 Cassette deck (Dolby System) 1 yr. old, \$200. Contact Bob Johnson, Pharmacy.

**FOR SALE:** Men's Phillips 10-speed bike. Used one season. \$50. See Marge Harris, P/R or call 797-2398.

**FOR SALE:** Men's figure skates, 1-star Reids, used twice. Size 8½. \$40. Call 781-4907.

**FOR THE DIETERS:** People will go to great lengths to avoid going to great widths.