



WHAT'S HAPPENING...

PUBLIC RELATIONS DEPARTMENT ■ MAINE MEDICAL CENTER ■ PORTLAND, MAINE 04102

February 18, 1974

TO AVOID A LOSS

Acting to avoid a projected loss of \$91,000, the MMC finance committee last week authorized increased charges in the MMC Cafeteria, effective Monday. The action was taken reluctantly, but was required to maintain the Cafeteria's traditional break-even operations and its high standards of food quality. It's sometimes hard to believe, but the same economic forces that have pushed your home grocery bill up some 18 percent this year are felt by the hospital. This is the first appreciable change in Cafeteria prices since March, 1971. There have been three salary increases since then.

ATTENTION AIDES/ORDERLIES

An eight-week course--Care of the Elderly--will begin for aides and orderlies Wednesday, Feb. 20. Classes will be held at Howe Hall, Southern Maine Vocational Technical Institute, South Portland, on Mondays and Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. Nancy Shackley, R.N., course instructor, urges all interested aides and orderlies to register by calling the SMVTI Adult Education department at 799-7303. Tuition refund is available for full-time MMC employees.

MGE IS WATCHING

Mrs. Bettsanne Holmes, chairman of the volunteer patient interview committee, will journey to Boston this week to talk with a Massachusetts General Hospital volunteer group. The MGH volunteers will soon begin a series of interviews in a patient care survey project based on the Maine Medical Center experience of the past three years. At MMC, the interview program is operated by Dr. Clement Hiebert's Patient Care Committee.

SPEEDY SUCCESS

The MMC Employees Activity Committee home-baked food sale on Wednesday was a speedy success netting more than \$125 to support EAC projects. The committee's thanks go to many MMC employees who contributed food and time, and of course to the sale's many customers. Congratulations go to Amy DiBiase, Accounting, who held the winning ticket in the fruit basket raffle.

IT'S WORKING

Dr. Joseph F. Stocks, MMC chief pathologist, told department heads last week that the Regional Blood Bank system is indeed working, and that RBB supplied MMC with about 7,000 units last year. However, he said, the system can work better if more people become involved and provide the regular, daily donations the hospitals need. He said about 3 percent of the population provides the 8 million units of human blood needed on a national basis every year. MMC employees are drawn on a regular basis, and constitute one of RBB's most reliable donor groups.

PAVILION PIPES

Workmen will be installing pipes for oxygen and vacuum in patient areas of the 1929 Pavilion for the next several months. The work will require changing traffic patterns for hospital personnel to minimize noise, confusion and the possibility of accidents. No change for patients, except the assurance that everything is being done to minimize any discomfort caused by the project.

CAMERA CLUB PLANNED

The first meeting of the MMC Camera Club scheduled for Tuesday, Feb. 19, at 4:30 p.m. in the Cafeteria Conference Rooms has been changed to 5 p.m. in the Medical Photography department. Club activities are planned for beginners and others interested in photography. More information is available from Medical Photo or Unit Manager Art Stevenson.

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