

Hazleton-Saint Joseph Medical Center

NEWSLETTER

Volume 1 Number 2

Fall 1985

Another Chance To Give Me A Name!

The newsletter still needs a name!

Because of changes in the production of this publication since the premier issue, the "Name the Newsletter" contest is being extended through this edition.

And to make the contest a bit more fun, the Medical Center will award DINNER for two at a fine restaurant to the winner and his or her guest. For those who have already entered, your suggestions are still eligible! Drop off your entries at the personnel office by December 31st.

So put on your thinking caps, and find a name for this Newsletter, and we'll pick up the tab. The winner can choose Damenti's, The Ovalon or The Library Lounge!

Radiation Therapy Center

The Hazleton-Saint Joseph Medical Center is proceeding with formal plans to lease the first floor of the former Hazle Township Junior High School for use as a Radiation Therapy Center.

"Plans have been finalized to lease some 3500 square feet of the building to Radiation Medicine Associates of Wilkes-Barre," said Sister M. Edwinalda, Medical Center Executive Director. The project was recently approved by the Hazleton Zoning Hearing Board.

Radiation Medicine Associates is a group of physicians specializing

in Radiation Therapy. They will make use of one floor of the structure, which will undergo extensive renovations to accommodate the new medical facility.

The physicians have a practice in Wilkes-Barre and already are treating a number of patients from the Hazleton area. Sister Edwinalda added, "Many people in the Hazleton area are in need of Radiation Therapy, and the local center will help eliminate the inconvenience and cost of travel to other areas."

Saint Joseph's will only lease the space, and will not be providing the service.

Betty Scott, Executive Director of the Hazleton Unit of the American Cancer Society said, "The center will be an invaluable asset to the community of Hazleton."

She noted that during the past twelve months 76 local persons in need of radiation therapy have been required to leave the Hazleton area, "That amounts to 1,098 trips." The cost of transportation paid for by the local unit totaled \$3,174.09, according to Ms. Scott. "This money can now be used for medicine, chemotherapy, food supplements, and medical equipment," she said.

"But, most importantly, patients will no longer have to go through the anxiety of having to arrange trips, and schedule transportation to and from the Hazleton area," Ms. Scott added. "This will make their lives so much easier, during a most difficult time. I do believe the center is the best thing to happen in the area in a while," she concluded.

According to Steve Gimmer, Senior Vice-President, the Medical Center is looking at other hospital related services to fill other space

in the building. "The building can be a most versatile facility," he said. "Saint Joseph's may use some of the space for some of its own cancer related services as well."

The center is expected to create a number of new jobs. "It will require some nursing staff, and some laboratory work will be done at the facility as well," Gimmer said.

Hazleton-Saint Joseph Medical Center purchased the structure, at 15th and North Church Streets, from the Hazleton Area School District in 1978. The building has been vacant since it was damaged by fire in 1976.

Parking On The Way...

There is good news for Medical Center Employees.

The Hazleton-Saint Joseph Medical Center has completed plans to purchase a property at 8th and Wyoming Streets for use as a new employee parking lot.

Senior Vice-President Steve Gimmer said the Medical Center purchased the former Whitehouse Products Building. "Its proximity to the Medical Center, makes it ideal for a new parking lot," he said.

Gimmer noted that while the new lot will not totally solve parking problems, it will help alleviate some. "The Medical Center is developing additional projects, which will all but eliminate the problem."

Plans call for the building to be torn down and the lot surfaced. About 40 spaces will be created.

The project may be completed in the very near future.

1st Birthday at Conyngham

"How time flies!" that was the reaction at the Saint Joseph Conyngham Satellite, when its first anniversary was celebrated October 8th.

The clinic, in the Valley Plaza, on Route 93, opened in October of last year and has already treated over three thousand patients.

Sister M. Edwinalda, Executive Director, presented the satellite staff with a special cake to mark the milestone on Anniversary day. An open-house celebration was staged Friday, October 11th, complete with balloons, and special treats for young visitors.

The Conyngham Satellite is staffed by Dr. Deborah Luchi-Mistal, D.O., Dr. Alexandra Motroni, MD, Dolores Fetter, RN Supervisor, Paulette Laskos, RN, Bernadine Gaydos and Charlene Kuchar, Clerks.

The Conyngham Satellite is open Monday, Wednesday and Fridays from 9 a.m.-5 p.m., and Saturdays from 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

Physician Practices Opened

July and August were busy months, with two physician practices opened in affiliation with the Hazleton-Saint Joseph Medical Center.

Dr. Joseph Laczi, MD, opened a medical practice in Conyngham in July. A month later Dr. Mark Lobitz, DO, began a practice in Tresckow.

Both Doctors are filling voids that were created when Dr. Richard Bonnaci retired after many years of service in Tresckow, and Dr. John Duffy retired from his office in the Valley.

Both offices offer appointment and walk in services.

Dr. Mark J. Lobitz
68 Market Street
Tresckow, PA 18254
Mon., Tues., Thurs., 9 - 5
Wed. and Fri., 1 - 9
455-2793

Dr. Joseph Laczi
Sugarloaf Avenue
Conyngham, PA 18219
Mon., Tues., Thurs., 9 - 5
Wed. and Fri., 1 - 9
788-1108

The physician practices were opened in an effort to provide the Region with the best possible primary Medical Care in an accessible Health Care Delivery System.

Gorski Joins Staff

Doctor Eugene Gorski recently joined the staff at the Hazleton-Saint Joseph Medical Center.

Doctor Gorski will treat patients at the Ambulatory Care Unit of Saint Joseph's, as well as the Conyngham Satellite.

Doctor Gorski is a graduate of West Hazleton High School and Wilkes College. Dr. Gorski attended the Hahnemann Medical College in Philadelphia, and upon completion of his medical training joined the Wyoming Valley Family Practice Residency. In 1984, he was elected chief resident of the program.

Dr. Gorski was active during the outbreak of giardiasis in the Wyoming Valley, working jointly with the Luzerne County Medical Society and the Pennsylvania Department of Health to establish educational programs for the public. He also worked to obtain medication for people inflicted with giardiasis, who were unable to afford it.

Dr. Gorski authored an article on the management of epidemic giardiasis, which is soon to be published in a national journal, "The American Family Physician".

For the past year, he has been a member of the Geisinger Medical Group, working in their satellite in Dallas, Pa.

He is a member in good standing, of the American Medical Association, American Association of Family Practice, and the Luzerne County Medical Society.

He is board certified in family medicine and is active in clinical hypnosis.

Dr. Gorski will be on-duty in the Ambulatory Care Center on Mondays and Wednesdays and at the Conyngham Satellite each Tuesday and Thursday. Welcome Aboard Dr. Genel

"Respect Life Week"

"Respect Life Week" was observed at the Hazleton-Saint Joseph Medical Center October 6-12. This year the program was held jointly by the Medical Center and Bishop Hafey High School.

Two special programs were held in the hospital to stress the important role Medical Care plays in the Catholic Life Ministry.

Presentations were made by the Bishop Hafey "Awareness of Life" club and Father John Doris, spiritual leader at the High School.

Medical Center Executive Director, Sister M. Edwinalda thanked the Hafey students and Father Doris for their assistance in making the program successful. She said "It was most fitting that the area's Catholic Hospital and High School joined hands in this important effort."

"Respect Life programming emphasizes the value of Human Life in all Stages," she added. "In Catholic health care we show our reverence for Life, God's Gift, in everything we do, every day."

A special luncheon menu was featured on Wednesday of Respect Life Week through the cooperation of Sister M. Cordia and Rick Flynn, and the Food Service Staff.



Snowball Set...

Mark February 1, 1986 on your calendars now! That's the date for the annual Hazleton-Saint Joseph Medical Center "Snowball."

The affair is being co-chaired by Mary Lou Cusatis, LPN, and Pharmacy Director Joseph Caputo.

The 1986 Snowball promises to be the best ever and will be held at Genetti's Best Western on Route 309.

There will be a scrumptious meal, dancing and open bar.

More details and ticket information will be posted in the hospital as soon as all plans are finalized. We'll see you there!

**HAZLETON - SAINT JOSEPH
MEDICAL CENTER**

NORTH CHURCH AND NINTH STREETS • HAZLETON, PENNSYLVANIA 18201

(717)459-4444

WRITERS: DIRECT DIAL NUMBER 459-4440

November 27, 1985

TO: All Employees

**FROM: Donna Tucker, Administrative Assistant
Pat Ward, Director of Public Relations & Marketing**

SUBJECT: "A LETTER OF THANKS"

A special letter of thanks to all of you for helping to make our first Thanksgiving Canned Food Drive a tremendous success.

The employee response continued to be strong and supportive right through until the end of the drive. I'm happy to say that we exceeded our goal and were able to prepare seven baskets of food.

The baskets were prepared and delivered to area needy families yesterday, with the hospital contributing capons, turkeys, and two loaves of bread to each.

A special note of thanks to the Dietary Department for their daily cooperation in picking up the canned products from the barrels and transporting them to the storage area.

Sister M. Edwinalda thanks all who participated in the drive for your interest and support in taking care of God's poor.

Thanks again everyone! Your cooperation and help in this project made it a BIG SUCCESS for everyone. With best wishes to you and your family for a healthy and Happy Thanksgiving Holiday.

Congratulations on a Job Well Done!!

Personnel Forum With Tom Yurish

NEW FACE IN PERSONNEL

The next time you stop by the Personnel Office, you'll see a new staff member in the reception area. Barbara Kalena joined our staff on October 21, 1985. Among her many duties will be answering your questions and helping you with personnel related matters, such as changes in name, address, marital status, payroll deductions, etc. If Barbara can't help with a particular problem or question, she'll refer you to Greg or me.

Evelyn Kulick has been a great help during the past months in answering questions and helping with problems. We are pleased that now, with Barbara on our staff, we can relieve Evelyn of that burden.



Transfers/ Promotions

Eileen Ackerman, RN to Ambulatory Care. Mrs. Ackerman has spent most of her working years in an ACC setting.

Lisa Zoba, RN to RN Medical Surgical, another successful bidder.

Walter Figas promoted to guard status.

Monica Stauffer Unit Clerk to Utilization Review Secretary.

Scott Steiner promoted to Manager, Security-Emergency Communications.

Joan McNelis, RN to Pediatrics. She's "just a kid at heart".

Rosemary Bianco, RN to Tresckow family practice. Somebody had to keep Dr. Lobitz in line.

Ed Smith, Nurse Aide to Medical Surgical.

Eleanor Buonato, RN to Out-patient Department.

Doris Moyer, Unit Clerk to Medical Surgical.

Debby Wysocky, Unit Clerk to Intensive Care. Debby just wanted to wear "scrubs".

Employee Handbook

Work is progressing on the New Employee Handbook, with distribution expected in the near future.

NEW EMPLOYEES

Ray Swankoski Accounting
Lisa Polchin Business Clerk
Richard Ashford GN
Kathy Bishop Nurse Aide
Barbara Lengen Unit Clerk
Gary Gray Nurse Aide
Rhonda Tarapchak Med. Tech.
JoAnne Bielen Unit Clerk
Thomas Stanzola

. . . Building/Grounds Tech.
Lori Lincalis Registration Clerk
James McLaughlin X-ray Tech.
Doris Moyer Unit Clerk
Lorraine Gaydos RN
Teresa Timko Unit Clerk
Diane Rybarczyk

. . . X-ray Work Study Student
Daneen Cassano

. . . X-ray Work Study Student
Janet Koslosky

. . . X-ray Study Student
Mary Ann Onderko Unit Clerk
Jeff Sewesky

. . . Assistant Credit Manager
Stacey Anthony

. . . Secretary to
Senior Vice-President

Michele McGowan GN
Corrine Potochney

. . . Key punch Operator Trainee
Pauline Gerard Guard Trainee

Daniel Balon Programmer Trainee
Gloria Matusick Med. Tech.

Jean Stashefsky Med. Tech.
Lisa Yacina MLT

Paula Triano RN
Pat Ward

. . . Public Relations/Marketing
Director

Sandra Breznitsky
. . . Radiology Program Director

Rita Matakonis RN
Diane Rachuck Pharmacy Aide

Mary Ann Trovitch Pharmacy Aide
Ron Johnson History Tech.

Brian Gorski Physical Therapy Aide
Joanne Coolbaugh

. . . Nursing Service Secretary



Births

Patricia (RN) and
Nicholas DeJoseph — Girl

Janet (Secretary to President) and
Ronald Witkowski — Girl

Mary (X-ray Tech.) and
Jeffrey Fierro — Girl

Linda (Audiologist) and
Tim Farley — Boy

Becky Gregory
(Weatherly Satellite) — Boy

Dr. Sandy Motroni
(Conyngham Satellite) — Girl

If we missed anyone, please let
us know in time for the next issue.



Wedding Bells

We would like to congratulate
the following:

Michele Calarco on her marriage to
Stephen Wye.

Raffael Veglia on her marriage to
David Billet.

Stephanie Blasko on her marriage
to Brian McCullough.

Ron Ashford on his marriage to
Cheryl Dombowski.

Patricia Rebarczyk on her marriage
to Raymond Swankoski.

Mary Sue Serock on her marriage
to Ronald Stauffer.

Allyson Corch on her marriage to
Kyle Glenn Titus.

Licensure/ Certification



The following have passed their
State Boards to become a Registered
Nurse. Congratulations to all!

Mary Strohl
Marcy Buzanowicz
Donna Schrum
Eileen DeBalko
Judy Titus
Carol Holdeman
Mary Jo George
Kathy Hinkle
Lisa Bodnar
Lisa Forgatch

HOSPITAL SPORTS



An Idea... Contributed by The Physical Therapy Dept.

It was a beautiful spring day and just before the Memorial Day holiday. Two department head employees got together over lunch. The topic - the upcoming summer months, of course baseball, and the idea to change the pace from seriousness, tenseness and emergencies in an acute treatment hospital. How about a St. Joseph's baseball team?

Over the next few days the word got out - and a meeting was held to discuss the organization of a team, sponsorship, practice and a home field. Thirty men and women signed up. Mothers, fathers, grandparents, married and singles, rookies, and those who had some baseball experience. Ballplayers included kitchen workers, x-ray, maintenance, the operating room, business office, respiratory, I.C.U., emergency care, physical and occupational therapy, administration, janitorial, laundry, nursing, laboratory, physicians and sisters.

Then the concerns arose - receiving administrative permission (and blessings), finding a home field, finding teams to play us, getting in shape, injury responsibilities, and the concern of losing time from work because of possible injuries.

Everything started falling into place. The hospital provided caps and T-shirts, a co-worker found a home field, another co-worker

provided equipment and most importantly, the enthusiasm was there!

THE RESULT...

It was a record breaking season! A 15 game schedule with 13 games won, 1 tie, and 1 loss. Before each game, our "rookie" guys and gals practiced and at least 4 gals got to play every game.

The softball players would like to thank everyone for their support in the organization of our softball team and are looking forward to an undefeated 1986 season!

P.S. A special thanks to Frank Wiechec for his time, energy and ball playing knowledge and experience!

Hazleton- St. Joseph Medical Center Softball Team



From Left to Right: Mr. Frank Wiechec, Manager, Debbie Yenchick, Barbara Payne, Marion Adams.

2nd Row: Nick Kitchision, Posh Butt, Tom Yurish, Jule Yurish, Bonnie Yannes, Susan Andes.

3rd Row: Ron Ashford, Steve Tutko, Dave Gombeda, Joe Franek, Joe Pacelli, Matt Gimmer, Donna Tucker.

Missing when Photo was taken: Janet Orth, Kathy Meyers and Mark Pastorella.

Writers Wanted!

Now is your chance to become an ace reporter. The newsletter is seeking qualified Reporters from every Hospital Department to submit stories and articles to be included in this publication. All we need is your pencil and paper and a moment or two of your time. Wanna help? Sign up through the Personnel or Public Relations offices! The more the merrier!

RN's Reminder...

The Nursing Office has an important reminder for any RN seeking a Bachelor's Degree.

Saint Joseph's College has been offering an external B.S. program for RN's and a number of Medical-Center nurses have taken advantage of it.

In fact over 16,000 students have enrolled in the program since 1976.

Most of the study is done at home, and credit is given for Associates Degrees and other in-service training.

This is an ideal opportunity to take advantage of this alternative to the traditional method of earning a Baccalaureate Degree.

For more information on this program contact Jeanne Maue at the Nursing Office, extension 413.

United Way

The United Way campaign this year generated pledges of nearly \$5,000 from our employees. This is more than double last year's total. Thanks to all who made pledges.

Feedback...

This is the second edition of the Hazleton-Saint Joseph Medical Center newsletter, and the response has been great!

We still want your suggestions and ideas. All materials can be dropped off at the Personnel Office or sent to the Public Relations Department in the Management Center.

Next edition coming this winter. Meantime, Enjoy your holidays!

Newsletter...

This newsletter is published quarterly for the staff and employees of the Hazleton-Saint Joseph Medical Center, 669 North Church Street, Hazleton, PA 18201.

Sister M. Edwinalda,
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Pat Ward, Editor
Tom Yurish,
Personnel Director
Stacey Anthony,
Production Assistant

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