

# update

Vol. 5 No. 15

November 15, 1982

## Judge signs agreement

On Friday, November 5, 1982, Judge Martin J. Coyne approved the settlement agreement and hospital reorganization plan, which paves the way for a multi-hospital system consisting of the Hospital Center and The Allentown Hospital, and allows Sacred Heart Hospital to withdraw from the governance of A&SHHC and become independent.

The long awaited approval of the new arrangement will increase the hospital's ability to provide cost effective quality health care to our region.

According to Ellwyn D. Spiker, administrator, the most important aspect of the new multi-hospital system is that it "is a positive step for all of us and the community. It will maintain what is good at both hospitals and increase our opportunities to do more by working together. Separately, we have excellent health care teams. Together, we can do even better."

Basically, the following will occur:

- 1) The formation of a parent corporation with A&SHHC and The Allentown Hospital to be subsidiary corporations of the parent.
- 2) Sacred Heart will resign from A&SHHC, begin its building program, and for it receive \$7 million from A&SHHC and Allentown over a 3½ year period.

According to Mr. Spiker, wages and benefits will not be affected by the payments to Sacred Heart Hospital, and since both hospitals will continue to pursue their own missions and goals, day to day operations will be minimally affected.

The parent corporation will have primary responsibility for broad policy decisions, addressing regional health needs, resource allocation, corporate planning, coordinated program/service development, health promotion, fund raising, and marketing/public relations.

In the next issue of Update, we will discuss full details of the agreement and its impact upon the Hospital Center.



## Governor here for ceremonies—

*The Honorable Dick Thornburgh officially christens the new MedEvac 1 at the groundbreaking of the new shock/trauma unit and helicopter and helipad dedication ... more inside!*





## The Center Welcomes

### To Dietary

Romao Belejo  
Mark McIntosh

### To EKG

Dolores Fioriglio

### To Financial Services

Linda Knappenberger

### To Housekeeping

Marion Henriksen

### To Laboratory

Annette Frisch  
Cheryl Ann Shegina

### To Nursing Services

Amy Bickel  
Mary Alice Coyle  
Lennie Gray  
Patricia Hindin  
Karen Holscher  
Edward Kaske  
Lisa Keck  
Gregory Keiper  
Sylvia Lee  
Caroline Lenhart  
Anita Lewis  
Jeanne Mancinelli  
Susan McGrorty-Pier  
Catherine Mulutzie  
Carol Riddle  
Barbara Schray  
William Scott  
Linda Smith  
Deborah Thornton  
Mary Toczek  
Ivan Vacaro  
Susan VanLoon  
Freda Wagner

### To Planning

Sandra Seidenberger

### To Pre-Admission Testing

Ruth David

### To Radiology

Terry Ann Berry

### To Volunteer Services

Jane Powers



Gale Schmidt Hodavance — Editor  
Jim Higgins — Associate Editor  
Janet Laudenslager — Staff Assistant  
Jack Dittbrenner — Photography  
Darla Molnar — Photography

## Groundbreaking dedication held



Pennsylvania Representative Don Snyder, Governor Thornburgh, Secretary Muller, and U.S. Congressman Don Ritter await the go-ahead from master of ceremonies Richard Fleming to ceremoniously "turn the earth" for the new shock/trauma unit.

It was indeed a proud occasion for the Hospital Center when, on Friday, October 29, Governor Dick Thornburgh, U.S. Congressman Don Ritter, Pennsylvania Secretary of Health H. Arnold Muller, M.D., and Pennsylvania Representative Don Snyder arrived for the dedication of MedEvac 1 and its new helipad, and the groundbreaking of the new shock/trauma unit.

Calling trauma treatment a system of "the utmost importance," Governor Thornburgh addressed the crowd, estimated at over 800 hospital employees, medical staff members, volunteers, auxiliaries, board members, community members, and representatives of local fire, police, ambulance, and rescue squads.

Secretary of Health Muller, recently named president of the American College of Emergency Physicians, noted that emergency medical services and trauma care have been important parts of the hospital's operation since it was founded. He also said that "the Department of Health designated this as the first trauma center in the state because of the excellent trauma services provided here."

After further remarks by Congressman Ritter and Richard Fleming, president of the board of directors, Governor Thornburgh spoke, christened the new helicopter, and then joined Dr. Muller, Congressman Ritter, and Representative Snyder in the groundbreaking ceremony.

(Continued on next page)



## Groundbreaking dedication (continued)

Also featured at the event, and seated with the special guests, were several key people involved with the hospital and its shock/trauma and helicopter transport program: Walter J. Okunski, M.D., president of the medical staff; Gary Steinberg, associate administrator; George Hartzell, M.D., acting chairman, department of surgery; Ronald Lutz, M.D., chairman of the department of emergency medicine; Michael Rhodes, M.D., acting MedEvac director and chief of the trauma division; George Moerkirk, M.D., co-medical director of the Emergency Medical Services Council of Eastern Pennsylvania; A.J. Heightman, executive director, Emergency Medical Services Council of Eastern Pennsylvania; John Stafford, M.D., Arizona State EMS director and former director of the hospital's flight operations; Jack Greenblat, Pennsylvania turnpike commissioner; William Wycoff, director of pastoral care; and William C. Dethlefs, director, division of emergency health services, Department of Health.

Also at the dedication were displays by the Emergency Medical Services Council of Eastern Pennsylvania, Messerschmidt-

Bolkow-Bloem (MBB) Helicopter Corporation, manufacturer of MedEvac 1, and Wallace and Watson, architects for the new unit.

When completed next summer, the shock/trauma unit will meet the needs of critically ill and injured patients from their admission into the unit, stabilization, and eventual discharge to one of our medical/surgical units for the remainder of their stay.

The unit will feature 12 critical care beds located adjacent to the emergency department. Injured patients entering the unit will be taken to one of three resuscitation bays, one bay will have the capacity to be converted for future use into a fully-equipped operating room.

The beds will be located in 12 three-sided self-contained cubicles that are designed to permit visual observation of patients.

The unit will have 7 intensive care level beds and 5 special care or step-down level beds, although all will be able to function at the intensive care level if needed.

## Broadening its horizons...

On October 13, MedEvac 1 became the third helicopter ambulance service added to the Pennsylvania Turnpike's traveler services. MedEvac coverage includes the Turnpike's eastern portion from Morgantown to the Delaware River Bridge, and on the Northeast Extension from the Main Line to the Lehigh Tunnel. MedEvac is still limited to life threatening emergency care calls, and will provide services on an "if needed" basis.

On Wednesday, October 13, at 10:30 A.M., the turnpike held a press conference to announce the new service at the Plymouth Meeting Maintenance Building. Representing the turnpike were, Jack I. Greenblat, turnpike commissioner; James B. Wilson, turnpike executive director; and C.L. Wright, Jr., turnpike safety director. Representing the Hospital Center were Morton Schneider, chairman emeritus of the A&SHHC board of directors; Donald H. Gaylor, M.D., chief of surgery; and Gale Hodavance, director of public relations and development.







*Respiratory therapy staff technician Dianne Hartnett at work in the open heart unit.*

## National Respiratory Therapy Week

Our busy respiratory therapy department and 80,000 of their colleagues across the country were honored during the week of November 7-13, when National Respiratory Therapy Week was observed.

At the Hospital Center, there are 30 people providing post-operative pulmonary care, testing, rehabilitation and education to our diverse patient population.

Educational backgrounds for respiratory therapists and technicians range from a bachelor's degree in respiratory therapy or pulmonary medicine to training for selected individuals which is provided by the department.

For the many people in the Lehigh Valley and across the country who suffer from lung and associated heart disorders, the respiratory therapy department is indeed a lifesaver!



## Jingle Bell Bash

The 3rd annual Jingle Bell Bash will be held on Friday, December 10, 1982, at the Fearless Fire Company, for all members of the Hospital Center family. Cocktails will begin at 6:00 P.M., with dinner served at 7:00 P.M. For your listening and dancing pleasure, "Luv N Touch" will perform from 8:30 P.M. - 12:00 Midnight.

The menu for this year's bash is as follows:

Fruit Cup  
Roast Beef and Turkey  
Lettuce with Bacon Dressing  
Filling  
Corn and Green Beans  
Pie  
Coffee or Tea

The tickets for the Jingle Bell Bash are \$7.50 per person and include the family style meal, beer and soda, and entertainment. Tickets are available in the public relations office, Monday through Friday, 8:30 A.M. - 5:00 P.M. Deadline for reservations is Friday, December 3, 1982. Tickets will not be sold at the door.

## Talent Show

As an added special attraction for this year's Jingle Bell Bash, the Recreation Committee is sponsoring a talent show, which will be held during the band's breaks at the party. There is a limit of 10 acts for the talent show with a 5 minute time limit for each act. To register, contact Janet in public relations before Friday, December 3, 1982. Contestants will be taken on a first come, first serve basis. First prize is \$25.00, second prize is \$15.00, and third prize is \$10.00. Consolation prizes will be awarded to all contestants.

## Stocking Stuffers

Movie tickets and gift certificates for photo finishing are available in the public relations office. Movie tickets are only \$2.50, and gift certificates for photo finishing are available in any amount. They both make great gifts! Get some for the whole family!



## Jingle Bell Jubilee

The second annual Jingle Bell Jubilee, sponsored by the A&SHHC Recreation Committee, will be held on Tuesday, November 30, 1982, 8:00 A.M. - 1:30 P.M., in the Hospital Center main lobby, for your early shopping convenience. Wood items, jewelry, and many other gifts will be available. Baked goods will also be available for those of you with a sweet tooth. Avoid the crowds, bring your wallet, and get a head start with your shopping. Proceeds benefit the recreation committee.

## Tremendous response to trips

We have had such a great response to the **Catskill Party Weekend** from February 11-13, that we have booked another bus. We have quite a few seats, but don't be left out in the cold, sign up now for a fabulous ski weekend. The cost of the trip is only \$129.00 per person (double occupancy); \$119.00 per person (triple occupancy); and \$109.00 (quad occupancy). The price includes transportation, hotel accommodations, fantastic meals, and so much more!

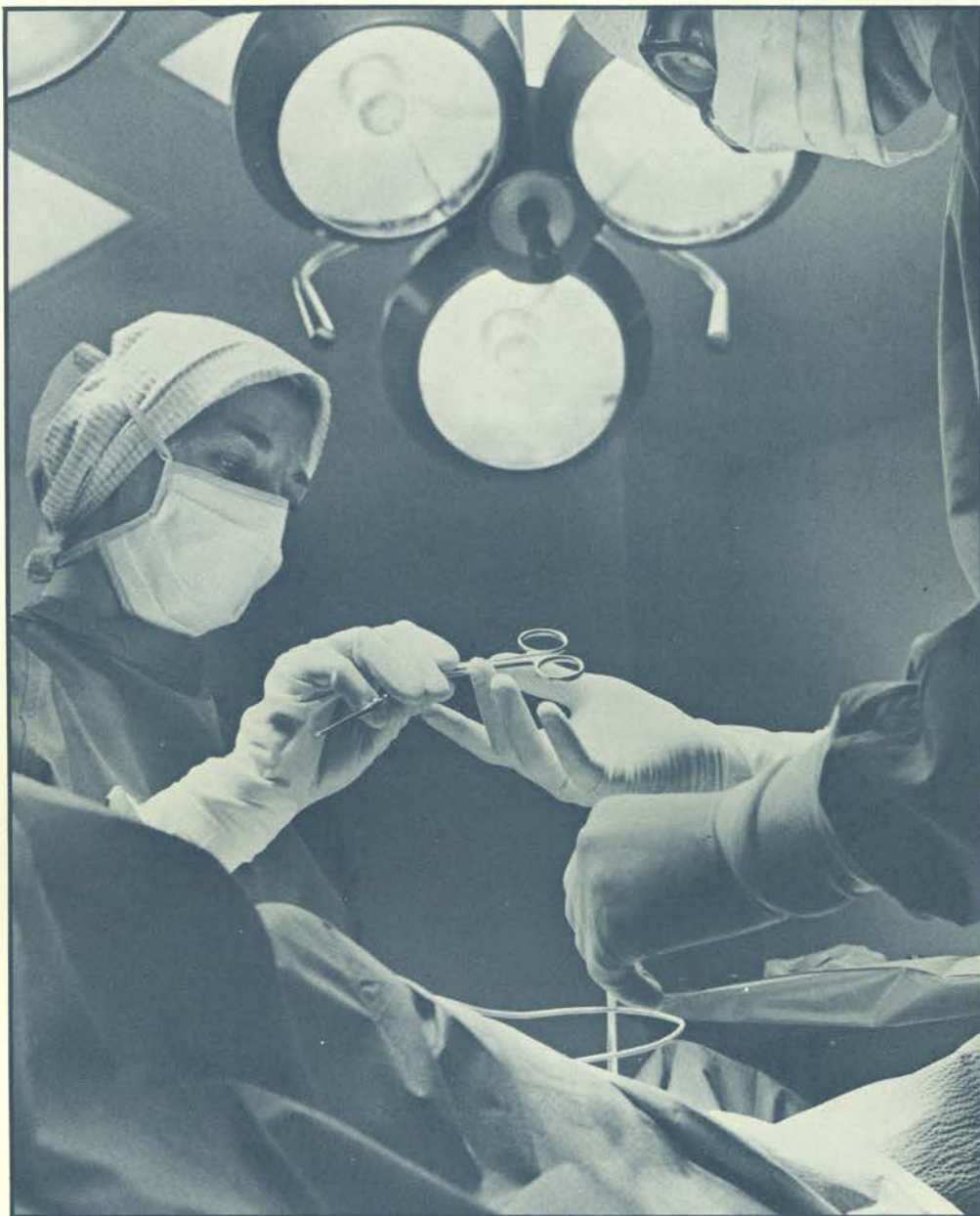
The **M/S Scandinavia** cruise from March 16-21, 1983 is a near sell-out. There are only two outside double occupancy rooms left. The cost of these rooms is \$460.00 per person plus \$16.00 port tax. The price includes accommodations aboard the M/S Scandinavia plus all your meals. Bus transportation will be provided to and from New York for our passengers at no additional cost.

For more information on either of the trips, contact Janet in public relations at 3084.

## New discount programs

Membership cards are now available to all members of the Hospital Center family for Koch's Exxon Personal Car Care Service Program. This program provides a full range of automotive services for you and your family. For membership cards and more information, stop by the public relations office.

Also available in public relations are discount cards for Cutler Camera. These discount cards entitle the bearer to special discounts on frames, albums, darkroom products, and selected photo accessories.



## 3rd Annual O.R. Nurses Day

Imagine being a surgery patient, frightened, and anxious to be well again—what else do you want besides “home”? Most likely a friend by your side—who won't leave.

Operating room nurses are those friends who dutifully are with the patient through the pre-operative assessment of the patient's health needs to post-operative recovery. But O.R. nurses are not only friends, they are accomplished professionals who have a great deal of responsibility for their patients.

Their duties vary according to whether they are scrub nurses or circulating nurses. The duties of the scrub nurse include assisting surgeons by draping the patient, applying dressings, applying suction, and anticipating the surgeons' moves in order to be ready with the right instrument.

Circulating nurses are in charge of the operating room. Some of their duties include checking that all supplies and equipment are sterile and preparing the next case for surgery.

And November 14 marked the third annual “Operating Room Nurses Day,” when operating room nurses were recognized nationally! On that day, the O.R. staffs from both The Allentown Hospital and A&SHHC honored the nurses at a reception at the Lehigh Country Club to celebrate the holiday.





## Party rated a "10"...

On the evening of Saturday, October 16, Celebration "10" was held at the Allentown Hilton in commemoration of the 10th anniversary of the hospital's auxiliary.

Welcoming the guests was Petey Shoemaker, the auxiliary's current president. The dinner menu included cream of mushroom soup, caesar salad, Veal

Marsala, rice pilaf, buttered broccoli, a champagne toast, and flaming Baked Alaska for dessert.

Clifford G. Vernick, M.D., first medical staff president, spoke as master of ceremonies, and the champagne toast was led by Walter J. Okunski, M.D., medical staff president.

Later, short presentations were given by Ellwyn D. Spiker, administrator; Valeria S. Boyer, past associate administrator and member of the board of directors; Richard Fleming, president of the board of directors; and again, Walter J. Okunski, M.D.

Dancing followed with music by Bud Rader's Orchestra.



# Pretty presents

Over half a million dollars! That is a tremendous amount of money! Thanks to our dedicated auxiliary, in 10 years, A&SHHC has received \$535,825.62, \$300,000 of which was raised in the last three years alone. This money was utilized towards important equipment which benefits the hospital daily, and below is a listing of their accomplishments:

August 7, 1974	Urological Operating Table (Big Top Ball proceeds)	\$ 16,166.75
May 9, 1975	Two Stryker Stretcher (frames) systems	2,232.83
January 5, 1976	Perkin-Elmer Gas Chromotograph	10,795.80
June 15, 1976	Echo-Phono-Cardiography system	17,675.00
June 15, 1976	Construction cost of gift shop expansion	16,070.00
October 15, 1976	Blood Flowmeter system	5,848.55
October 15, 1976	Spectrometer	2,875.00
October 15, 1976	4-Channel EKG Stress Monitor	12,000.00
October 15, 1976	Ventilator	6,000.00
October 15, 1976	Skin Stapler	700.00
June 21, 1977	4 Saturn 5 Portable Monitors	7,856.32
November 1, 1977	Blood Gas Unit	16,350.00
November 1, 1977	Enclosure — Emergency Room	14,600.00
November 1, 1977	PCCU Furniture	2,550.00
June 30, 1978	Hewlett Packard Monitor	9,183.15
June 30, 1978	Three-Channel EKG Machine	7,025.18
February 16, 1979	Operating Room Equipment	58,375.92
June 29, 1979	EKG Machine	7,024.82
June 29, 1979	Monitors and Accessory Equipment	12,996.30
September, 1979	5th Anniversary	1,500.00
June 30, 1980	Burn Center	100,000.00
June 30, 1981	Burn Center	100,000.00
June 30, 1982	Gamma Camera	108,000.00

The Tree Top Shop is by itself responsible for raising \$70,000 of the \$130,000 donated to A&SHHC this year. Other significant money contributions are the continuously growing hospital events such as May Daze and the Christmas Bazaar, also run by the auxiliary.

As said in the beginning of the auxiliary's written history "and we've only just begun," denotes a most positive and successful future for A&SHHC. With people like these who constitute the auxiliary, we really can't lose — only win, time and time again!

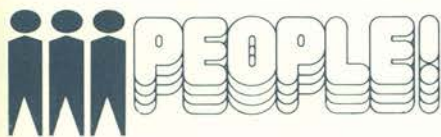
Thank you, auxiliary members, for your time, efforts, and dedication to our hospital, and for everything that you have so far contributed to us by way of your fulfilled goals of the past 10 years.

**Don't forget — the annual Auxiliary Christmas Bazaar — Friday, November 19, in the main lobby, 9:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.**



Gathered together at Celebration "10" are auxiliary president Petey Shoemaker (left) and past presidents Helen Hallock, 1979-81; Mary Ann Bachman, 1975-77; and Mary Walbert, 1972-75. Missing from the presidential photo is past president Norma Heller, 1977-79.





**Richard C. Cipoletti**, assistant administrator for human resources, was a featured speaker at the annual meeting of The American Academy of Actuaries and the Conference of Actuaries in Public Practice at the Hyatt Regency in Boston, Massachusetts, earlier last month.



*Richard Cipoletti*

Over 400 actuaries from all over the country representing all major actuarial and consulting firms attended the annual meeting where topics such as Social Security alternatives, flexible benefits, and pension funding were discussed.

Mr. Cipoletti presented the details involved in the withdrawal from Social Security undertaken by the Hospital Center a year ago. His presentation included environmental considerations (legal, labor, political), research and review of private plans to replace Social Security, employee/management interaction, management follow up and review, and the outcome of these decisions — costs, benefits, employee attitudes, as well as timing, marketing and communications, and hospital demographics/work force demographics.

Since the Hospital Center made the decision to withdraw from Social Security in October 1981, over 450 hospitals have filed a letter of intent to withdraw from Social Security, a very significant and increasingly popular consideration for non-profit institutions.

**Petrina DiSabella** is the new staff planner in the planning department. In this position, she will work with available funding sources, as well as assist with proposal writing and application to the Dorothy Rider Pool Health Care Trust.

Petrina is a graduate of Temple University, with a B.A. in business administration, and she holds an M.B.A. from the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania. She is also a registered nurse, graduating from the Hazelton State General Hospital School of Nursing.

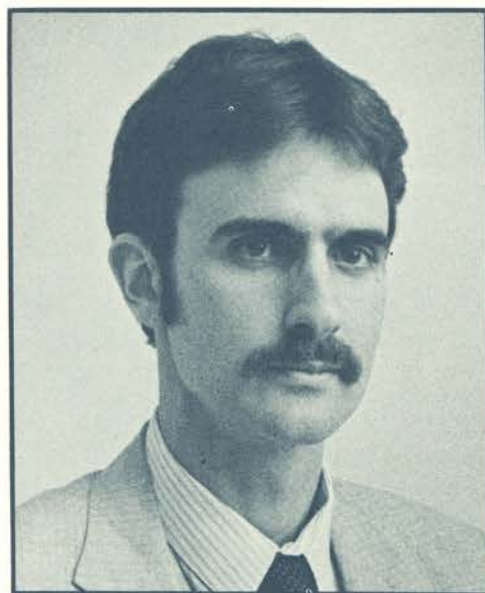
Prior to her appointment here, Petrina had been a federal contract administrator at St. Luke's Hospital, Bethlehem, and assistant administrator of the Donald Guthrie Foundation for Medical Research at the Robert Packer Hospital, Sayre, Pennsylvania. She also has medical/surgical nursing and industrial nursing experience.



*Petrina DiSabella*

**John Coffman** is the new director of housekeeping. A graduate of the University of Missouri, he has a B.S. in Administrative Management. Prior to his appointment here, he was the director of housekeeping at the Children's Hospital of the King's Daughter, Norfolk, Virginia, and assistant director of housekeeping at the University of Kansas Medical Center.

John is taking over for **Tom Birmingham**, who has been promoted to district manager with Crothall-American, Inc., the company which provides our housekeeping management services. Tom has been at the Hospital Center since September, 1974.



*John Coffman*

## Critical care reorganizes

Named to evening assistant supervisor positions in the critical care division of nursing services are:

**Judy Dorsam, R.N.**, a member of the nursing staff since September, 1974, and a graduate of The Allentown Hospital School of Nursing; **Linda Folger, R.N.**, here since August, 1978, and a graduate of the Toledo Hospital School of Nursing, Toledo, Ohio; **Donald Jones, R.N.**, on our nursing staff since September, 1975, and a graduate of The Allentown Hospital School of Nursing; and **Mary Sabo, R.N.**, here since September, 1974, and a graduate of St. Joseph's Hospital School of Nursing, Reading. New night assistant supervisors are:

**Marilyn Rourke, R.N., B.S.N.**, at the Center since August, 1980, a graduate of Thomas Jefferson University School of Nursing, Philadelphia, and Trenton State College, Trenton, New Jersey; **Mary Sebastian, R.N.**, a member of the nursing staff since September, 1974, and a graduate of St. Joseph's Hospital School of Nursing, Reading; and **Karen Willey, R.N.**, here since September, 1977, and a graduate of St. Luke's Hospital School of Nursing, Bethlehem.



**Herbert L. Hyman, M.D.**, chief of the Hospital Center's division of gastroenterology, has recently completed a term of membership on the National Arthritis, Diabetes, and Digestive and Kidney Disease Advisory Council.

The council is a program of the National Institute of Health of the Department of Health and Human Resources, Bethesda, Maryland.

Burn center staffers **Walter J. Okunski, M.D.**, medical director, and **Yvonne Troiani, R.N.**, education coordinator, were guest speakers at a seminar sponsored by St. Luke's Hospital recently. "Emergency Management of the Burn Victim: A Continuum of Care" featured discussions of burn prevention, assessment and emergency care, with emphasis on the pre-hospital phase, emergency department management and protocol for transfer. Current methods of burn wound management and rehabilitative care were also presented.

**Dolores Burke**, former secretary in computer services, has been promoted to computer services assistant, word processing. In her new position, Dolores will handle the implementation and support of all word processors to be used in the Hospital Center. As of now, word processors are in use in computer services,

personnel, planning, and public relations. Departments scheduled for word processors in the next few months include the clinical laboratories, nuclear medicine, and pathology.

Dolores has been here since March, 1980.

**Dorie Drummer, R.N., 5A, Megin Heintzleman, R.N., 5C, and Fran Worman, R.N., M.Ed.**, unit instructor, recently attended an orthopedic conference for nurses in Memphis, Tennessee. The program, held at the Hyatt Regency, included such topics as shock trauma, spinal cardiology, antibiotic update, and diagnostic radiology. The conference was sponsored by the American Association of Orthopedic Surgeons.

**Linda Woodin, R.N.**, medical/surgical nursing unit instructor, will have an article, "Your Patient With a Pneumothorax: A Patient in Distress," published in the November, 1982, issue of Nursing 82 magazine.

A graduate of The Allentown Hospital School of Nursing, Linda also received a B.S.N. from Metropolitan State College, Denver, Colorado, and is working towards a master's degree in nursing at the University of Pennsylvania.

**Evan Reichlin**, benefits coordinator, joined the adjunct staff at Moravian College, Bethlehem, for their fall semester. Evan taught a two-credit, seven week course, "Compensation and Benefits," to students enrolled in baccalaureate programs leading to a bachelor's degree and for students participating in a certificate program in human resources.

**Norman Sarachek, M.D.**, staff cardiologist, and **Stuart Jones, M.D.**, nuclear medicine physician, were participants recently in a symposium on "Microcomputers in Medicine," held at Easton Hospital.

Dr. Jones discussed microcomputers in medical imaging, and Dr. Sarachek presented microcomputer data calculations in the intensive care setting and computer assisted medical education.

Both physicians are co-chairmen of the A&SHHC Computer Applications Committee.

**Mary Swierczynski**, nurse educator, diabetes education program, was recently part of the faculty and a featured speaker at a pediatric clinical nursing conference sponsored by the Medical College of Pennsylvania. Mary's topic was "Educating the Family for Home Care of the Diabetic Child."

**Michael Sinclair, M.D.**, staff cardiothoracic surgeon, was a top finisher in a recent marathon, held in Ridgefield, Connecticut. Dr. Sinclair finished 13th overall and was 2nd in the master's division in the 26.2 mile road race. His time: 3:04:58.

**William T. DeFeo, D.P.M., P.C.**, recently became board certified by the American Board of Podiatric Surgery. He has been on the Hospital Center's medical staff since November, 1977, and is chief of the department of podiatry.

Dr. DeFeo is a graduate of Temple University and the Pennsylvania College of Podiatric Medicine. He did a residency in foot surgery at the John F. Kennedy Memorial Hospital in Stratford, New Jersey, and is a fellow of the American College of Foot Orthopedics.



*Jimmy Lee Gross, housekeeping, had the right answer for dietary's recent contest on the weight of one very large pumpkin! Jimmy's psychic powers were right on target—120 lbs., 10 oz.—and his prize was a book of meal tickets. Looking on are Ed Leifer, food services director, and Ted Tobia.*





The Wellness Center and its staff have been increasing their services to both the Hospital Center and the community. The Wellness Center has begun a concentrated effort to broaden its impact on the Lehigh Valley through its community/industrial outreach program. Charlene Rauch, R.N., B.S., was hired as a part-time consultant by the Wellness Center to assist with this program. She will be meeting with previous clients to review the success of past programs and promote courses for next semester. The clients include employees from Phoebe-Devitt, Cedarbrook and Cedarbrook Fountain Hill Annex Nursing Homes, Air Products and Chemicals, Acoustical Spray Insulators, and Lehigh Lumber Company. In addition, the Wellness Center is working to develop new contracts in the community. The Allentown Hospital is an example of one new client who will be utilizing the Wellness Center services this spring for employee screenings and courses.

## Programs

Critical care unit nurses have formed a steering committee to deal with stress in critical care areas and to work with the Wellness Center and its consultant, Gary Adamson of Swedish Hospital, Colorado. The steering committee has begun gathering data on various aspects of working in critical care. In addition, they have distributed 100 stress questionnaires to 100 randomly selected critical care personnel. Mr. Adamson and his team were at A&SHHC on October 7 and 8 to conduct interviews, gather data, and help organize the effort to help in this situation. Completion of this data collection, analysis and recommendations are the next steps in our process to develop a comprehensive plan to reduce stress within our critical care departments.

**Ostomy Health Education Program** — The Wellness Center was approached by Carol Balcavage, R.N., enterostomal therapist, earlier this year concerning the possibility of providing health education programs for our community ostomy patients. After much planning, it was decided by the Wellness Center program coordinator, Susan D'Annibale Weigand, and Carol Balcavage that a program consisting of weight control, exercise (with an emphasis on the abdominal area) and some stress management skills would be offered to our community ostomy patients through the A&SHHC Wellness Center. Through the Wellness Center, 36 people expressed interest in the programs with 23 registering for the courses. Three people were sent all the weight control information because for various reasons they could not attend the programs. There are two classes currently in session for ostomy patients and they are taught by Susan D'Annibale Weigand, Judy Holaska, R.D., A&SHHC nutritional support service; and Charlene Rauch, R.N., Wellness Center weight control instructor.

**Child Care** — The Wellness Center program coordinator met with Jo Costaldi, director of the A&SHHC Child Care Center, and proposed the idea of offering a creative movement program for the pre-school aged children of the Child Care Center and the possibility of offering a type of infant stimulation program for infants at the center. The Wellness Center has two exercise instructors with experience in these areas and their responsibilities will be to work with the children as well as the Child Care staff to train them in these activities.

**Community Activities** — The Wellness Center staff has also been busy with a recent workshop, "Is Your Lifestyle Wrecking Your Health" for the Allentown School District teachers, serving on the newly formed Lehigh Valley Task Force on smoking and health, serving on the committee for the regional office of the Pennsylvania Department of Health in Reading, planning a scheduled Spring '83 conference on "Work Site Risk Reduction", and participating in "Nursing Update 82: The Ostomy Experience."

## M/S nurses meet challenge

For many critically injured or ill patients, the use of a ventilator is often the difference between life and death.

Ventilators (or mechanical respirators as they are often erroneously referred to) "breathe" for a patient. The mechanical action of the ventilator forces a prescribed amount of oxygen into a patient's lungs, via an airway between the machine and the trachea.

Ventilator patients — those with severe respiratory distress caused by an illness or injury — are admitted to one of the many critical care units of the hospital, areas like the shock/trauma unit, the open heart unit, the burn center, the acute coronary care unit, or the specialized medical/surgical central nervous system unit.

Recently, an unusual situation arose where two stroke victims, a 71 year old woman and a 77 year old man, were admitted to the medical/surgical nursing unit 6A. Both patients required ventilators, but due to unavailability of beds in any critical care area, the decision was made to orient the nursing staff to caring for ventilator patients and keep them on 6A.

After an intensive week long inservice by respiratory therapy, the staff was ready for their new challenge, and a successful team effort has been a benefit to the two patients, the nursing staff, and to the hospital. Well done!

## PAC group formed

A parents' advisory committee for users of our Child Care Center was formed this month. Nineteen members joined the group which will act as a liaison between the Child Care Center staff and parents to implement policies and procedures for the child care center.

Officers elected for the new group include Rose Dale, R.N., president; Georgia Colasante, vice president; and Linda Moyer, secretary. Also appointed was Louise Oswald, who will be a liaison from the nurse recruitment committee to the PAC.

Monthly meetings will be held and anyone interested in joining should contact Linda Moyer at 3000.



## Diabetes Education Program underway

A diabetes education program is underway now through December 16 for persons with diabetes and their families. The Hospital Center sponsored program will feature both morning and evening classes to be held in the auditorium. Those who attend classes will learn basic and new information about diabetes in adults and children from physicians, nurses, and dietitians experienced in diabetes care.

Both small group classes and individual teaching sessions are offered. Individuals must pre-register for one or all of the scheduled classes. The fee is \$5.00 per class and covers the diabetic as well as accompanying family members. Once a person takes a class, that person and a family may repeat the same class at any time without additional charge.

The diabetes education program is a two year project funded by the Dorothy Rider Pool Health Care Trust.

For more information or to register for the classes, call Mary Swierczynski, R.N., at 2639.

## Stroke symposium scheduled

"Management of Cerebrovascular Disease, 1982" will be the topic of a symposium designed for physicians on Saturday, November 20, at St. Luke's Hospital.

The program, sponsored by the Hospital Center, St. Luke's Hospital, and the Lehigh Valley Stroke Program, will address the management of stroke with particular attention to the interests of the primary physician. Topics to be discussed include embolism, hemorrhage, thrombosis, and the epidemiology of a stroke.

Hospital Center medical staff members on the faculty include William Gee, M.D., vascular surgeon; Lawrence P. Levitt, M.D., chief of neurology; and Martha Lusser, M.D., staff neurologist.

For more information, contact the Lehigh Valley Stroke Program at 866-5535.



## New Shock/Trauma Unit construction

As most of you probably have noticed, construction for the new shock/trauma unit is underway. Roadways and traffic patterns in and around our emergency department entrance will be affected by this activity for the next 12 months.

The 4-foot barricade erected around the construction site for safety purposes will remain for the entire year construction period. Security is in this area to help control all emergency department traffic.

To lessen the traffic burden in this area and on the road, employees and other staff are urged to use another means to and from parking areas whenever possible, until construction is completed.

## Radiation program scheduled

There will be a program entitled "The Handling and Treatment of the Radioactively Contaminated Person" on Saturday, November 20, in the A&SHHC auditorium.

The program is designed to provide emergency medical personnel with an overview of the procedures for handling and treating victims of radiation accidents.

Several topics to be discussed are iodizing radiation, effects of low level radiation exposure, and hospital procedures for responding to the contaminated and injured patient(s).

Sponsoring the program are A&SHHC, American Red Cross — Lehigh County Chapter, Eastern Pennsylvania Emergency Medical Services Council, and Lehigh Civil Defense.

The registration fee is \$10 and includes nutritional breaks and all program materials. Checks should be made payable to A&SHHC, and sent to educational development. For more information, call 821-2026.

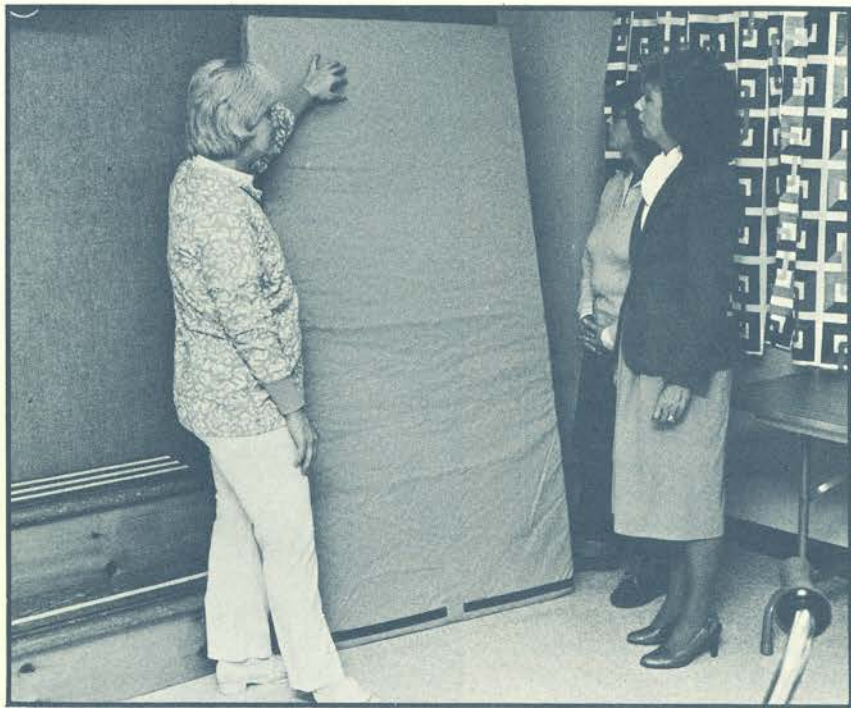


# Volunteers! Thank You!

The recent parking and elevator studies took a lot of time, patience, and cooperation from many people. Charged with the responsibility of this important task were many members of our auxiliary and volunteer services department. We'd like to say "thank you" for a job well done, and one greatly appreciated!

## Notice — car pool parking

In recent months, the utilization of the designated car pool parking area has dwindled. Because of the decreasing number of people using the spaces and the increased crowding in our parking lot, all car pool parking areas will be eliminated.



## Burn Center donation made

The Girls' Club of Allentown recently made a donation of an exercise therapy mat to the burn center in memory of Laurie and Paula Pearsall, two young girls killed in a house fire.

In a ceremony held in the burn center's physical therapy area, Linda Pearsall, (in middle of photo), mother of the girls, and Shirley Harter, (right), past president of the Girls' Club board of directors, learned more about the use of the inclination mat from burn center head nurse Geri Klem, R.N., (left).

Allentown and Sacred Heart Hospital Center  
1200 S. Cedar Crest Blvd.  
Allentown, PA 18105

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