

# CHECKUP

Vol. 3, No. 18 December 1, 1989

## Employees' Contributions Personify Holiday Spirit

Everyone knows the holidays are a busy time. Activities like shopping, baking, wrapping presents and attending parties leave little time for anything else.

But even so, many TAH—LVHC employees and volunteers are making the effort to make the season a little brighter for patients and their neighbors in the community.

**Home Care of the Lehigh Valley** gave more than thanks on "Turkey Day." The department delivered about 15 food baskets to their patients. In addition to turkeys, fruit and baked potatoes provided by the hospital, the baskets were filled with canned goods donated by employees at TAH site.

Currently, LVHC site employees are demonstrating their generosity through their participation in a drive for the Lehigh Valley Food Bank. Receptacles for canned goods were placed throughout the hospital on Monday, Nov. 27 and will remain until Friday, Dec. 15.

This year, **Hospice** presented its first set of holiday grief workshops. The free four-week series, which is held at 7:30 p.m. Mondays, began Nov. 20.

Several departments will be holding parties for their patients. The **Renal** department (TAH) will have its sixth annual Christmas dinner for home dialysis and kidney transplant patients at 6:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 9 in TAH site cafeteria. The feast will feature covered dish delights brought by the patients.

The **Comprehensive Community Cancer Center** in cooperation with the Make Each Day Count Support Group will hold a party for patients and their families at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 12 in the cafeteria conference room, TAH site.

(See **Contributions**, Page 2)

## TAH—LVHC Donates Microscopes To Rural African School

Through the persistence of nurse coordinator Monica Morekin, two microscopes, which were obsolete for TAH—LVHC purposes, are now being used to teach biology to teen-aged students in rural Africa.

Morekin's quest for the hard to find reflective-type microscopes began when she learned an Allentown resident serving in the Peace Corps needed them for her classes. The teacher, Jean Watters, could not use more modern microscopes because the school was not equipped with electricity. She teaches students who are equivalent in age to our ninth- to 12th-graders.

"I became involved because I thought it was a worthy cause," says

Morekin, R.N., nursing coordinator, 3 to 11 p.m. shift, TAH—LVHC. "Since I had worked with the microscopes in nursing school I thought I had some access to that kind of information. I didn't know it would be so difficult tracking them down." The microscopes have become a collector's item because they are so rare.

Morekin contacted Leonard Kelly, Archives manager, and later Debra Maleski, director of Materials Support Services, Materials Management, became involved. Initially, Kelly did not have any reflective microscopes but later located some.

Though microscopes may not seem

(See **Microscopes**, Page 2)

**OOPS!** Due to a printing error, the ballot for *Vim & Vigor* magazine's **Personal Best Contest** was not included in the last issue of *CheckUp*. Please help TAH—LVHC employees Elizabeth Hegarty, R.N.; Janet Dib, R.N.; and volunteers, Susan Murray and Lucille Bailey, win a trip to Phoenix, Ariz. this winter by returning the enclosed ballot to Communications by **Dec. 11**. Remember check only **one name per ballot**.



The Allentown  
Hospital—  
Lehigh Valley  
Hospital Center

A HealthEast Hospital

## Microscopes

(Continued From Page 1)

very important to American students, that is not the case in Africa.

"The students are very appreciative of education and their attitudes towards school are very good," Morekin says. They spend a lot of time studying.

"This school is in the rural area of Kenya and at the end of Form Four, which is equivalent to our senior year. The students are required to take a national examination that takes three weeks—all day long," Maleski says. "In most of the rural schools very few will even pass, which means their chance for acceptance to a university is nil. There are too many children and not enough facilities or qualified educators."

Watters, who teaches at Leseru Secondary School in Eldoret, Kenya, described the facility, established in 1983, in a thank-you letter to Maleski. Sixty percent of the students are boarders.

"We don't really have a laboratory, just an extra room with some tables and stools," Watters wrote. "We do have some lab equipment—anyway I'm learning to make do."

Watters introduced the microscopes to her Form Three (equivalent to 11th grade) students, who were studying transport in plants and animals. They looked at a cross-section of a stem.

One girl was so excited about seeing the stem through the microscope that Watters showed her what her blood looks like. "She really loved it," Watters writes.

Maleski also received a thank-you note from a girl named Ruth Oyiela, who signed the letter, "your loving student." The girl, whose native lan-

guage is Swahili, wrote in broken English.

"I think our standard of life shall be uplifted which I can conclude thankful gratitudes towards you," Oyiela writes. "To pen off I gonna say bye and have a nice day and I shall remember you and put you in our daily celebration (prayers)."

Maleski was charmed by the warmth of the girl's note.

"'You're loving student,' I really thought that was neat," she says.

"I remember the day the letters

arrived. I was going through my regular stack of mail and there among the typical memos and correspondence I found the package of letters from Kenya. I thought Kenya; who's writing me from Kenya?"

Maleski says she enjoyed reading the notes, which included one from the school's head master, a position similar to our principals.

"I learned a great deal about the Africans' way of life just from reading the letters," she says.

## Hospital Routinely Donates Goods

TAH—LVHC has been donating goods through the Materials Management department to third world countries like Kenya for more than 10 years. Likewise, the hospitals have been contributing to local charitable organizations virtually since the institutions were established.

Employees, particularly those who volunteer their time to service organizations, can play an important role in increasing the amount of items donated to service groups by informing Materials Management of needs in the community, says Debra Maleski, director of Material Support Services. Matching the goods with the people who need them is very difficult, she says.

"We know there is demand and we know there is supply, but they don't always meet each other in the marketplace," Maleski says.

Maleski encourages group members, especially employees, to make the needs of the indigent known. The names of the inquirers are placed on a list and then contacted when and if the goods become available.

Among the items the hospital has donated are beds and mattresses to local homeless shelters. Outdated beds, litters and mattresses are often available, she said. Although they are no longer appropriate for patients who lie on them virtually 24 hours a day, they are in relatively good shape.

"We try to do the best for our institution and the people receiving the goods," Maleski says.

As a result, the department first sees if there is a need for the items in the institution. Next, it attempts to sell them and finally they are donated or discarded.

The hospital sometimes sells or donates diagnostic and other equipment used in patient care to veterinary schools and veterinarians only. The hospital does not donate sophisticated equipment to third world countries because it has no control over how it is delivered and usually their residents do not have the technical expertise to operate or calibrate it properly.

However, Materials Management personnel are happy to help find uses for other discarded items that can meet a need. For more information, please contact Materials Management at ext. 8555.

## Contributions (Continued From Page 1)

The Neonatal Intensive Care Unit Parent Support Group will have a party for its members and their families at 12:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 2 in TAH site auditorium. It is also sponsoring the "Beanies and Booties" contest. Entries, which will be given to NICU infants, will be displayed on a tree in TAH lobby Dec. 8 through Jan. 5.

The Auxiliaries of both TAH and LVHC sites have been sponsoring events to raise money for the hospital throughout the holiday season. LVHC Auxiliary held a bazaar on Nov. 17 and TAH Auxiliary sold poinsettias to be delivered Friday, Dec. 8.

The hospital will not only look more festive during the next few

weeks, but also sound more cheery thanks to the efforts of the Arts Advisory Council of HealthEast and LVHC site Chorus. The council recruited musicians to provide carols during the lunch times and early evenings. The chorus plans to cascade patients with melodies later this month.

Undoubtedly many other employees volunteered to make someone else's life a little merrier this year by participating in activities unbeknownst to *CheckUp*. If you know of an activity that was not included in this roundup, please call ext. 2581.

*CheckUp* commends all these employees who personify the true spirit of the holidays.

*CheckUp* is a biweekly publication of the Communications Department of HealthEast. To submit an article or for additional information, call ext. 7915.

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## CCCC Offers Workshop

The Comprehensive Community Cancer Center (CCCC), a program of TAH—LVHC, and the Pennsylvania Department of Health, will present a medical-surgical oncology critical care nursing workshop. **Ports, Pumps and Paraphernalia**, will be presented on Thursday, Dec. 7 in TAH School of Nursing auditorium.

The one-day workshop will provide nurses with an overview of specific devices used in providing cancer care and other therapies. The workshop is aimed at cancer care, medical-surgical, emergency care, critical care, Home Care and Hospice registered nurses.

The deadline for registration is Dec. 1 and the fee is \$5. For more information and to register, call the CCCC ext. 2582.

## Quit Smoking By Hypnosis

HealthCounts, the employee and community wellness program of TAH—LVHC, will offer a 90-minute hypnosis session which focuses on eliminating the thoughts and behaviors that continually support smoking habits. The program, which is free to employees, will be held from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 7 in the boardroom, LVHC site. The registration deadline is Nov. 30. For more information and to register, call HealthCounts at 821-2150.

## Clarification: Radiology Week

A story on National Radiology Week printed in the Nov. 15 edition of *CheckUp* underestimated the amount of radiation procedures conducted by Radiology at TAH site. The correct number should be 197 a day, according to Walter Eberts, administrative technician.

This number does not include the procedures performed by Radiation Oncology (TAH). Radiation Oncology, which is located only at TAH site, treats 80 patients a day.

*CheckUp* commends Radiology at both TAH and LVHC sites for a successful National Radiology Week.

## O.R. Nurses Launch Drive For Homeless



*Joann Haros (left) and Donna Rose, O.R. nurses at TAH site, chat with a homeless man who is "warmed" by their generosity. The nurses led a clothing drive and distributed the bounty at a local soup kitchen.*

Ten years ago, "homelessness" was not an everyday word in our vocabulary. And hardship seemed exclusive to victims of misfortune.

Today, however, men and women swathed in layers of clothing huddle on the grates of city streets; cardboard boxes frame makeshift homes; and shelters crowded to capacity turn mothers and their children out into the night.

In Allentown, the problem is less severe than in many major metropolitan areas. But that is of little comfort to the city's homeless.

When Donna Rose and Joann Haros decided to do something to help, they were surprised and encouraged by the response of their efforts. "I actually felt guilty for feeling so good," says Rose.

Rose is clinical instructor and Haros is a staff nurse in the Operating Room (O.R.) at TAH site. Early in November, as they exchanged ideas about National Operating Room Nurses Day, the two decided to take a dramatically different approach to marking the annual observance.

Typically, the nurses host social and educational programs, including tours of the O.R., to recognize the role of nursing in surgery.

This year, on behalf of the Association of Operating Room Nurses, they launched a clothing drive for the city's poor and displaced. The coats, gloves and scarves, collected among members of the organization's mideastern chapter and the O.R. staff, were distributed at the Soup Kitchen at St. James AME Church, Fourth and Union streets, Allentown.

The kitchen is operated by a coalition of area churches which provides the meals and the manpower to feed more than 100 people daily, Tuesday through Thursday.

"It was wonderful," says Shawn Miller, kitchen coordinator. "It was thoughtful of the nurses to do something like this. The lines grow longer everyday. The need is real."

Both Haros and Rose, who plan to hold clothing collections throughout the year, agreed, "It was wonderful."

"We are the caregivers," says Rose of herself and her co-workers. "This is an extension of that role."

## Clothing Drive Continues

Clean, wearable winter clothing—coats, hats, shirts, slacks, gloves and scarves—for men, women and children is now being accepted for distribution on Dec. 19. Drop off points are the Communication departments at both hospital sites and the HealthEast Trust Fund's Office of Donor Relations.

# Board Of Directors

This is the 16th installment in an ongoing *CheckUp* feature which provides brief biographical sketches of community leaders who volunteer their time to serve on our boards of directors.

## **Charles Scagliotti, M.D. HealthEast and TAH—LVHC**

Charles Scagliotti, M.D., has been a member of both the HealthEast and TAH—LVHC boards of directors since 1989 by virtue of his position as president of the medical staff.

In addition to serving on TAH—LVHC's Planning Committee, he is an ex-officio member of the hospital's Executive, Quality Assurance, Joint Conference, Education and Nominating committees and an invited guest of the Medical Staff Development Committee. He also serves on HealthEast board's Planning and Communications committees.

Dr. Scagliotti was chief of the Vascular Surgery Division and director of both the Non-Invasive Vascular Laboratory and the Intensive Care Unit at TAH site. He is a member of the active staff of the Department of Surgery, divisions of General, Vascular and Trauma Surgery.

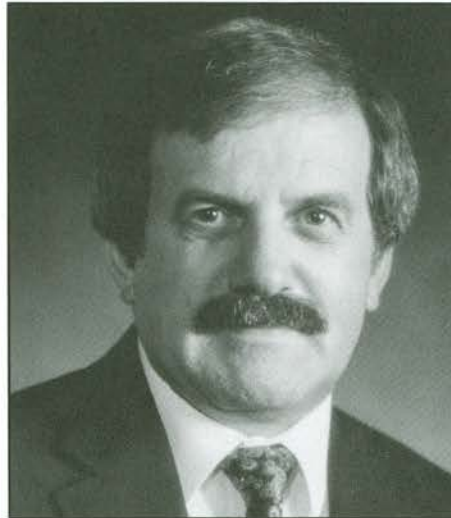
A diplomat of the American Board of Surgery, Dr. Scagliotti instructs students at TAH—LVHC on advanced cardiac life support and trauma life support. He also is a clinical associate professor, Department of Surgery, Hahnemann University, Philadelphia.

Dr. Scagliotti completed his vascular surgery fellowship at Allentown and Sacred Heart Hospital Center (now LVHC site) and his general surgery residency and internship at Allentown Hospital (now TAH site), having served as chief general surgical resident.

He received his medical degree from the University of Padova in Italy and his bachelor's degree in biology from the University of Scranton.

Dr. Scagliotti is a fellow of the American College of Surgeons and a member of Pennsylvania Society of Colon and Rectal Surgery, Eastern Association for the Surgery of Trauma, Society of Critical Care Medicine and the Delaware Valley Vascular Society. He is a member of both the Pennsylvania and Lehigh County Medical societies.

His civic activities include serving on the Swain School of Allentown Board of Trustees. He is a former board member of the Eastern Pennsyl-



*Charles Scagliotti, M.D.*



*Donald T. Shire*

vania Health Care Foundation and the Pennsylvania Peer Review Organization.

Dr. Scagliotti and his wife, Patricia, have three children.

"I serve on TAH—LVHC and HealthEast boards because I enjoy the opportunity to share the concerns of my fellow physicians with the boards and also to represent nursing and other allied health professionals on the board level," Scagliotti says. "It also gives me the opportunity to interact with various other disciplines, professions and occupations in setting the goals for the future practice of medicine in our region."

## **Donald T. Shire TAH—LVHC**

Donald T. Shire has been a member of TAH—LVHC Board of Directors

since it was established in 1988. Before the merger, he was a member of TAH board, a position he held since 1983.

Shire serves on the Executive; Joint Conference; Human Resources; Pension, Investments and 501(c) Trust; and Clinical Chairman Case Review committees.

Shire is vice president of Human Resources at Air Products and Chemicals Inc., where he has been employed for the past 32 years. Other positions Shire has held at Air Products are vice president of Energy and Materials, assistant general counsel, corporate secretary and a staff attorney.

Born in Boston, Shire received his bachelor's degree in business administration from Boston University's School of Management and his law degree from its School of Law.

A civic leader, Shire is a vice chairman of the Muhlenberg College Board of Directors, a member of its Executive Committee and chairman of its Educational Policies and Faculty Affairs Committee. He is a founder, former president and director of the Planned Parenthood Association of Lehigh County, director of Family and Children's Service of Lehigh County and a trustee of the Parkland Community Library.

Among his other activities he has served as a member of Citizens for Lehigh County Progress, a member of the Board of Directors of the Industrial Development Corp. of Lehigh County and on volunteer boards of South Whitehall Township.

Shire, an Episcopalian, has been a member of the vestry and senior warden of The Church of the Mediator and has been a delegate to several Diocesan Conventions and deputy to two General Conventions of the Episcopal Church of the United States. He served as a member and chairman of the Committee for the Episcopate in the Diocese of Bethlehem.

He is a member of the Massachusetts Bar, Boston Bar and various other professional societies.

Shire and his wife, Anne, have three children, Jennifer, Andrew and Daniel.

"I enjoy serving on TAH—LVHC Board of Directors because I believe that each of us has the responsibility to give something back to the community in which we live in the hope of making it better," Shire says, "and TAH—LVHC is one of the most important entities in our community where a meaningful effect upon the future good of the community can occur."

## Policy To Enhance Vacation Benefits

TAH—LVHC management recently approved a policy which will increase vacation allowance of employees who have worked at the hospital for eight or more years. This policy is effective Jan. 1.

According to President Samuel R. Huston, the improved policy will give all employees eligible for vacations an additional day of vacation each calendar year every four years after completing eight years of service.

"We wanted to do something to recognize and reward long-term service and had asked employees at meetings six months ago for suggestions on how to do this," explained Huston during a recent employee meeting. "This policy is a result of those recommendations."

Currently, employees at the hospital for eight to nine years receive 120 hours (three weeks) of vacation time each year. The new policy will give these people an extra eight hours each year, or 128 hours of vacation.

When employees reach their 10-year anniversaries, they will be awarded the traditional fourth week, plus an added eight hours, for a total of 168 hours of vacation. This vacation time will remain the same for the 11th year.

Employees having between 12 and 15 years will receive eight more hours of vacation, for a total of 176 hours; those with 16 to 19, 184 hours; 20 to 23, 192 hours. For 24 years or more, employees will receive 200 hours or five weeks of vacation.

Previously, after employees reached the 10-year mark, they did not receive any additional days off. A survey of local hospitals and businesses, however, revealed that half of the major employers in this area award a fifth week of vacation at 25 years.

As a result, TAH—LVHC decided to award a fifth week, but went even further. Because only a handful of employees have 25 years of service, TAH—LVHC decided to implement the enhanced vacation benefit over time so more people would reap its rewards.

"It's not very meaningful for most employees to have to work 25 years to get five weeks of vacation," said Huston. "But, the improved vacation policy will benefit nearly 1,300 TAH—LVHC employees."

He added that a committee investigated how other hospitals and employers in the area have addressed the issue and then developed this plan.

Following conventional vacation time planning, the added hours will be available to employees on Jan. 1 of their anniversary years. These hours will be reflected in the "PTO HRS REMAIN" portion of their paycheck stubs.



Jody Porter, head nurse O.R., LVHC site, shows Allentown Mayor Joe Dadona some of the equipment used in the O.R.

## Educational Happenings

### Friday, Dec. 1

**LVHC** — DOS computer training; 9 to 4 p.m.; Information Services training room, second floor, General Services Building. Registration is required; call Human Resource Development, ext. 2430. For information, call Information Services, ext. 8303.

### Saturday, Dec. 2

**LVHC** — "Non-Insulin Dependent Diabetes Mellitus: Understanding Its Pathogenesis and Implications for Treatment"; 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.; auditorium. Designed for health care professionals working with patients with diabetes, the Lehigh Valley Area Health Education Center has designated the seminar for four credit hours in Category 1 of the Physician's Recognition Award of the American Medical Association and the Pennsylvania Medical Society membership requirement. Employees will not be charged, but they must supply their own lunch. Registration is required; call Human Resource Development, ext. 8320.

### Monday, Dec. 4

**TAH** — Employee Orientation; 8 a.m.

to 4:30 p.m.; auditorium.

### Wednesday, Dec. 6

**LVHC** — Inservice: Vascular Access Ports; 10 to 11 a.m.; classroom 2. Sandra Smith, R.N., Oncology nurse administrator, will lead this inservice sponsored by the Comprehensive Community Cancer Center. For more information, contact Smith at ext 2582. Registration is not required. Stroke Team; 9 to 10 a.m.; cafeteria conference room.

**TAH** — Tour TAH site; 1 p.m.; lobby.

**LVHC** — Tour LVHC site; 2:30 p.m.; lobby.

**LVHC** — Powerbase basic computer course; 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Information Services training room, second floor, General Services Building. Registration is required; call Human Resource Development, ext. 2430. For information, call Information Services, ext. 8303.

### Thursday, Dec. 7

**LVHC** — Powerbase advanced computer course; 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Information Services training room, second floor, General Services Building. Registration is required; call Human

Resource Development, ext. 2430. For information, call Information Services, ext. 8303.

### Wednesday, Dec. 13

**LVHC** — DisplayWrite 4 intermediate computer course; 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Information Services training room, second floor, General Services Building. Registration is required; call Human Resource Development, ext. 2430. For information, call Information Services, ext. 8303.

**TAH** — Stroke Team; 9 to 10 a.m.; O.R. conference room.

**TAH** — CPR Recertification; 27 continuous hours beginning at 10 a.m.; Pediatrics classroom, fifth floor. For additional study guides or more information, call Human Resource Development, ext. 8320 or 2430.

### Thursday, Dec. 14

**LVHC** — DisplayWrite 4 advanced computer course; 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Information Services training room, second floor, General Services Building. Registration is required; call Human Resource Development, ext. 2430. For information, call Information Services, ext. 8303.

## Festival Of Trees & Lights To Include HEI Entry



The Festival of Trees and Lights, a fund-raiser of the Auxiliary to the Lehigh County Medical Society, will benefit school-based educational programs on substance abuse prevention.

HealthEast's exhibit will be among more than 120 trees to be featured at the festival to be held Saturday, Dec. 2 through Sunday, Dec. 10 in the Antique Market at Phoenix Square and the Phoenix Fitness Studio, Race and Court streets, Allentown. HealthEast's display, an artificial white tree titled "Caring Is the Greatest Gift," was donated by Phoebe Floral Shop, 21st and Hamilton streets, Allentown.

In addition to the trees, the festival will have a display of Judaica honoring Hanukkah and a tantalizing gingerbread lane.

The festival will be held from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Sundays; 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturdays and 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Thursday. Donations will be requested. Recommended amounts are: \$4, adults; \$3, senior citizens; and \$2, children. Group tours may be arranged by calling 398-3498.

Visitors have the chance of taking one of the trees home. Several of the trees will be available to bid on through silent auction. The trees will be delivered to the highest bidder, courtesy of Keller Moving and Storage Inc. Some Gingerbread houses will also be available to bid on by silent auction.

## Security Seeks Staff's Cooperation

Security plans to make TAH—LVHC even safer and more able to meet future protection challenges, but to accomplish this goal it needs the cooperation of the entire hospital staff.

"It's going to be an integrated approach with the nursing staff and other personnel," says E. Gerald Kresge, newly named director of the merged Security department. "I really look forward to that." He commended Security at both sites for the steps they have already taken toward integrating the department. Supervisors Lou Geczi (TAH) and Darryl Laub (LVHC) have done an excellent job in making the transition from a contracted Security staff to an in-house one, he says.

Kresge intends to build on that accomplishment. Among the changes he plans are that all Security members will become more familiar with both sites so they can respond to extra security needs when required.

"There's no question that TAH site offers a greater challenge than LVHC site does," Kresge says. The building has many entrances, a full-scale Psychiatry department and high traffic areas of Pediatrics and nurseries.

Identifying problem areas and finding solutions, may mean a realignment of the Security staff. This will be the department's first challenge, Kresge says.

These solutions, however, must be reasonable for both patients and staff, taking their needs into consideration.

"If I could lock all the doors at 8 p.m. that would be ideal; no one could come in after that time; but the reality is that can't occur because there are patient and staff needs that weigh against security needs," he says. "We must deal with these needs while providing the very best security in the most convenient way possible," he says.

Employees should not be surprised if they are stopped and questioned by a Security officer. "We're going to start to ask people, 'what are you doing in here after 8 o'clock? Who are

you?' We have to challenge some people."

Security will also escort visitors, particularly during night and early morning hours. Kresge also encourages employees to wear their badges or name tags.

In addition to checking the buildings, Security will become better acquainted with the staff. By establishing a rapport, Kresge hopes employees will begin to see Security as a resource that they can call upon.

"It's a lot easier to call a friend and that's what we are," Kresge says. "You're not inconveniencing a Security officer by having him spend time on your unit or area."

For example, if someone is working late in an out-of-the-way part of the hospital, they should contact Security so an officer can check them occasionally. Also, when these employees are ready to leave, they should ask Security to walk them to their car.

Nurses and other personnel should notify Security when a patient or visitor has the potential of becoming violent, such as in the case of a domestic dispute. Often employees will try to handle a difficult situation themselves, calling Security only when it has gotten out of control.

Though Security will undergo some changes, its primary function—protecting employees, patients and visitors—will remain the same, Kresge stresses.

"When we have to physically restrain someone, it will be done," he says. "We know that is a necessary part of the job and we will do it to the best of our abilities."

"It is our role to put ourselves between the employee and the potential offender. Security officers are not here to punish anyone. However, when restraint is called for, we will do it effectively, efficiently, without harming anyone."

Kresge, who views the role of a Security officer as 10 percent "police" and 90 percent "public relations," says fortunately such situations do not occur often.

## Illegally Parked Cars To Be Ticketed And Towed

To ensure prompt delivery of materials to several departments at TAH site, including Payroll, employees should not park in the no parking zone at the west end of the School of Nursing, along 17th Street.

This space is reserved for the hospi-

tal courier, who parks there several times a day when picking up and dropping off important materials for Payroll, Finance, Mailroom and the Business office.

Any cars parked in this zone will be ticketed and towed away.

# Outstanding Nurses Honored By HealthEast

Several TAH—LVHC nurses were awarded Friends of Nursing Medallions at the HealthEast annual meeting last month for their contributions to the pediatric clinic and patient education.

Pediatric nurse practitioner **Ellen Fairchild** of Allentown was chosen for her leadership and expertise in expanding the pediatric clinic at TAH site. Largely due to her efforts, parents may now bring their children to the clinic five mornings and three afternoons each week. As a result, the number of children treated at the clinic has increased to more than 3,000 a year, an increase of more than 1,000 children in the past year alone.

In addition, Fairchild has expanded a service whereby parents can call the clinic regarding their children's symptoms and receive information on how they can be treated at home. Also, she has distributed parent educational materials regarding well child care and is involved with the immunization of children.

In nominating Fairchild, John E. Kenvin, M.D., staff physician at the

pediatric clinic, said, "She takes a very personal interest in the children and families and continues to follow through by phone to discuss problems the children are experiencing and how they are responding to the therapy recommended."

The **Short Stay Unit (SSU)** at LVHC site was selected for improving patients' understanding of a procedure to open a blocked heart artery. The procedure is called percutaneous transluminal angioplasty (PTCA). A committee consisting of **Debra Adomshick**, Allentown, committee chairwoman; **Brenda Miller-Reeser**, Catasauqua; **Elizabeth Hersh**, Allentown; **Christine Tripp**, Nazareth; **Sonja Bowe**, Allentown; and **Julia Clelland**, SSU head nurse, Macungie; led the unit in this endeavor.

The SSU first surveyed patients who would soon undergo an angioplasty procedure to determine their knowledge and expectations of the period following the procedure.

Based on the results of a questionnaire, the unit developed a teaching sheet titled "Learn More About Angio-



*TAH site Nursing Medallion Winner Ellen Fairchild.*

plasty." The sheet is now given to patients before the angioplasty procedure is performed and nurses review the information with them.

In nominating the unit for the award, Terry Ann Capuano, administrator, Nursing Services, said, "The magnitude of their study, as well as the development of a patient education resource for PTCA patients are efforts which serve to promote a high quality of care for our patients."

Also receiving Friends of Nursing Medallions were the Home Health Care Department of Gnadon Huetten Memorial Hospital for its development and implementation of a quality assurance plan and Marjorie Kovacs of the Adult Addictions Program at Slate Belt Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, Bangor, who was instrumental in developing and implementing a program to address the specific needs of female addicts. Friends of Nursing is a HealthEast program that was developed for the recognition, promotion and educational advancement of nursing professionals.



*Members of the Short Stay Unit, LVHC site, show off their Nursing Medallion Award. Pictured (from left) are: Debra Adomshick; Christine Tripp; Sonja Bowe; David M. Buchmueller, president of HealthEast; Elizabeth Hersh; Brenda Miller-Reeser and Julia A. Clelland.*

## When The Media Calls

Health care has always been of great interest to the media, and reporters often call TAH—LVHC employees directly for information. The Communications Department is responsible for relieving employees from handling the media. If a member of the media should contact you, please let them know that all media contacts must be coordinated through the Communications Department. It is the responsibility of the Communications Department to handle the request, obtain approvals and determine the appropriate release of information.

Please offer to transfer them to the Communications Department or give them the telephone number to dial directly (ext. 2581, TAH; ext. 8900, LVHC and ext. 7914, HEI). After the referral has been made, notify the Communications Department that a reporter contacted you. The media relations director will address their request as soon as possible.

A copy of the updated media policy is available through each of your department heads. If you have any additional questions regarding the hospital media policy, please call the Communications Department at your site. Thank you for your cooperation.

## Congratulations

Wedding bells rang for **Karen Spence, R.N.**, staff nurse, General Intensive Care Unit-West (GICU-W), LVHC site and Todd Phillips on Sept. 2. The couple honeymooned in Hawaii.

There has been a baby boom among the staff nurses of LVHC site's GICU-West! **Sally Getz, R.N.**, and her husband, Bobby, became the proud parents of a daughter, Laura Jane, on Sept. 21; **Dawn Wainwright, R.N.**, and her husband, Gene, welcomed Alisha Rose on Oct. 1; and **Carol Kriebel, R.N.**, and her husband, Dan, greeted their son, Daniel Vincent, on Oct. 4. All are doing well!

In addition to the excitement on GICU-West, **Cassandra Snyder, R.N.**, director, Anesthesia (LVHC), and her husband, Dave, welcomed their new son on Oct. 5. Christopher David weighed 8 pounds, 2 ounces and was 20 1/2 inches long.

**Kathleen Knapp, R.N.**, staff nurse, 7C (LVHC) and her husband, William, announced the birth of their son on Nov. 13. Eric weighed 7 pounds, 13 ounces. **Carol Buehler, R.N.**, staff nurse Special Care Unit (LVHC), and her husband, Dave, had a baby girl on Nov. 8. Emily Kaitlyn weighed 9 pounds, 6 ounces and was 21 1/2 inches long.

## Mother/Daughter Conference Is A Hit



*Maria Pillsbury, director of media relations, Communications, holds the microphone for a Channel 69 cameraman, while he films Donna Dispas, program director of The Weight Management Center of the Lehigh Valley, during WomanCare's recent conference titled Mothers and Daughters: A Special Day Together.*

## Briefly Speaking

### Volunteers Needed To Select Patient Music

Volunteers are needed to serve on a committee to select tapes for Walkman tape players to be used by TAH—LVHC patients. The tapes and Walkmans will be purchased through a grant TAH—LVHC received from the Professional Nurse Council.

### WomanCare Sponsors Program On Headaches

"Headaches and Woman," a program to be sponsored by WomanCare Dec. 7 at LVHC site, will provide information on the causes and ways to relieve migraines and other headaches.

TAH—LVHC neurologist Peter Barbour, M.D., will be the featured speaker of the program to be held at noon in classroom 1 and repeated at 7 p.m. in the auditorium. Free parking will be available and babysitting services are provided for those who register at least five days before the lecture. For more information, contact WomanCare, ext. 3800.

## Holiday Employee Events Scheduled

The **Annual Holiday Dinner** will be served for employees, volunteers, auxiliary members, and the medical staff in the cafeteria at both sites in December. Dinner will served at the following times:

### TAH Site

10:45 a.m.-1:15 p.m. Dec. 13  
4-6 p.m. Dec. 13  
2-3:30 p.m. Dec. 14

### LVHC Site

2-4 a.m. Dec. 14  
10:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Dec. 14  
4:30 p.m.-7 p.m. Dec. 14

The **Annual Holiday Party** for employees' children will be held from 1 to 4 p.m. Dec. 17 in LVHC site classrooms 1 and 2.

The party, sponsored by the Employee Activities Committee, for children aged 10 and younger will feature a marionette show and a visit from Santa Claus. Each child will receive a gift and cookies. Registration is required and a \$1 donation will be requested. For more details, watch for a memo to be circulated soon or call Vicki Spohn, ext. 8530 or Meg Haney, ext. 8989.



Thank you for your vote.

Please return your ballot to Communications at HealthEast, 50 College Drive.

# CHOOSE THE BEST OF THE BEST!

Each issue, on our "Personal Best" page, *Vim & Vigor* honors several of your friends and neighbors for their outstanding health accomplishments. Now it's your turn to vote for the best of the best — our "Personal Best of the Year, 1989." The winner will be honored at *Vim & Vigor's* annual editorial dinner in Phoenix, Arizona, in February 1990.



Matthew Kirby, "Personal Best of the Year, 1988" winner, is pictured at the awards banquet in Phoenix, Arizona, February 1989.

You may vote as often as you like.  
However, your entry will be disqualified if you check off more than one name per ballot.

**VIM & VIGOR**  
"Personal Best of the Year, 1989"

Voting is easy!  
Simply check off your choice and mail this entire page or a facsimile to: "Personal Best of the Year, 1989," *Vim & Vigor*, 8805 N. 23rd Avenue, Suite 11, Phoenix, AZ 85021. Votes must be received by December 15, 1989.

### Winter 1989

- Lucille Bailey  
Allentown, PA
- Susan Murray  
Allentown, PA
- Mary Lou Pappolla  
Drexel Hill, PA
- Philip Roach  
Knoxville, TN

### Spring 1989

- Lee DeVeney  
Knoxville, TN
- Janet Dib  
Allentown, PA
- Margaret Moody  
Jacksonville, FL
- Connie Phillips  
Mt. Clemens, MI

### Summer 1989

- David Howell Berry  
Columbia, SC
- Patrick Heffley  
New Orleans, LA
- Elizabeth Hegarty  
Allentown, PA
- Otis Roller  
Jacksonville, FL

### Fall 1989

- Reuben Otis,  
New Orleans, LA
- Van Seelbinder  
Birmingham, AL
- Rachael Warecki  
Torrance, CA
- Penny Wormsley  
Knoxville, TN

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Your Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_