Cardiac Consult Service
Offered Area Children

The Allentown Hospital Department of Pediatrics, in conjunction with the hospital's Heart Station, is offering a Pediatric Cardiac Consultation Service for infants and children with significant cardiac (heart) problems.

The service, open to patients in the Lehigh Valley area, is also co-sponsored by St. Christopher's Hospital, Philadelphia, which will send a pediatric cardiologist to the once monthly service, to be held in the Allentown Hospital Heart Station.

According to Dr. Russell Puschak, chief of The Allentown Hospital Department of Pediatrics, patients seen by the service must be referred by a family physician or a pediatrician. The consultation service will be held on the third Monday of each month. Dr. Puschak said he expects about six to eight patients to be referred to the service each month.

Dr. Puschak noted that the service was being offered at the Allentown Hospital because a substantial number of patients were being referred to Philadelphia and evaluated at St. Christopher's Hospital.

"Because of the need, we decided to bring the Pediatric Cardiologist here," Dr. Puschak said. Dr. Ian Black, chief of cardiology at St. Christopher's will be one of several cardiologists available through the service.

RETIRES—Mr. "B", a fixture at the hospital for the past 21 years, retires Dec. 31, but his last day will be Nov. 30. Mr. "B" praised his employees as the "best in the Valley," and said his years at the hospital were "tremendous." His most memorable experience at the hospital was one Christmas morning after a heavy snowfall. He walked into the kitchen, the only person available to start Christmas breakfast. Patients received their Christmas meals, nevertheless.

GETTING THINGS STRAIGHT—It took a while, but workmen finally put the finishing touches on the new upper portion of the stack that is attached to the boiler room. The old stack dated back to 1914, when the boiler room was constructed, and was beginning to show its years. The stack had a definite crook and was listing. So down it came and the new upper end added.

Hospital Offering "Parenting" Series

The Allentown Hospital Department of Pediatrics, is sponsoring a five week "parenting" series designed to help new parents make the adjustment to parenthood. The course is also designed to answer parents' questions concerning child care and development.

The classes are open to all parents. However, the focus will be on infants and toddlers. Classes will be held from 7:30 - 9:30 p.m. Tuesday evenings at Allentown Hospital, 17th & Chew Sts. The cost of the five week program is $10.00. Classes will start when 20 or more parents register.

According to Mrs. Ann Duerst, R.N., coordinator of the program, the course was formed because of an expressed interest by many young parents who participated in childbirth classes held Monday through Thursday evening and also during the day on Monday at the Allentown Hospital.

"We are a transient area and many new parents do not have the extended child support nearby. We are trying to provide that support and medical knowledge with these classes," Mrs. Duerst said.
Joint SAC Slate Formed By Hospitals

The Allentown Hospital will join with the four other Allentown hospitals to form a joint slate of candidates for the January election to the Lehigh County Sub Area Council of the Health Systems Agency.

The decision to act jointly was reached after meetings of the administrators from the five hospitals. William Locke, President and Chief Executive Officer of The Allentown Hospital, attended the meetings.

Two main factors were considered in approving the concept of the joint slate. First, administrators agreed that no one hospital could muster enough votes to place its own 14 candidates on the Sub Area Council, (SAC).

There are 14 openings on the 21 member SAC, eight positions up for election because of expiring terms, and six additional slots open because an expansion of the SAC from 15 to 21 members.

Administrators also agreed that the five area hospitals should work together as an actual demonstration of the growing spirit of cooperation among these institutions. The five hospitals are Allentown, Osteopathic, Sacred Heart, The Hospital Center and Good Shepherd.

The five hospitals will select candidates, several from each institution, who will go on a joint slate which will be publicized among employees of all five institutions. On election night, Jan. 10 at Dieruff High School, voters from the hospital will attempt to place the slate on the SAC.

Cardiac Consult Service

The Allentown Hospital operates a 42 bed pediatrics department, the largest in the Lehigh Valley area.

While at the Allentown Hospital, the pediatric patients will be examined in the heart station, one of the most up to date non invasive facilities in the state. Pediatric cardiologists will have access to a host of echocardiology machines, EKG’s, stress equipment and X-Ray. Dr. Puschak said the types of patients to be evaluated will include those with cyanotic heart disease including septal defects (defects in the heart muscle), malformation of the major vessels and congenital valve defects and any other disease affecting the heart.

The consultation service began this month (November).

Birth Control Aired

Dr. Connie Tan Yen, on the hospital staff, and Margie Seigle, Executive Director of Planned Parenthood of Lehigh County, discuss “Birth Control”. One million teenagers become pregnant every year due to a lack of information about birth control. A frank discussion of the different techniques are discussed. Shelley Brown is the Host along with Dr. Headley White as Co-Host.

Efforts are already underway to register employees at the five hospitals. Employees must register to be eligible to vote, even if they registered last year. Also, only residents of Lehigh County may vote in the Lehigh County SAC election. However, residents of other counties should register to be eligible to vote in their own counties.

The SAC is the first reviewing body of the Health Systems Agency, and studies all projects from health care institutions in Lehigh County. Projects are also reviewed by a number of advisory committees and finally the Health Systems Council, the main body of the agency.

The SAC, as well as the Health Systems Council, reviewed the hospital’s modernization project last year and will again review any future plans.

Last year the hospital fielded a slate of four candidates, all of whom were elected. The Allentown Hospital was joined then by Osteopathic Hospital.
Update...

NEW DEFIBRILLATOR—Kim Sharkey, Head Nurse, ICU, discusses a new portable defibrillator with Frank Lowell, Heart Station chief. The new equipment will be used in the transportation of patients from critical care areas. Four other departments have the portable units.

Annual Christmas Party

The hospital's annual Christmas Party will be held this year Thursday Dec. 21 in the cafeteria.

According to Mr. "S", Food Service Manager, the "usual goodies" will be served, including stuffed flounder, Roast Beef, and stuffed Chicken breast. There will be three servings of this annual treat to employees: 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.; 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. and a buffet for night staff employees starting at 10:30 p.m.

As usual the Christmas dinner is free of charge.

Annual Concert Set

The School of Nursing chorus will hold its annual Christmas Concert at 8 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 5 in the auditorium of the nursing school. Approximately 22 student nurses will offer a variety of Christmas carols to the accompaniment of two pianos played by Mindy Rohrer, a senior, and Sue Houseknecht, a freshman.

The public is invited and a $1.50 donation is requested for the concert, $1.00 for nursing students. Proceeds from the concert go to the Student Association.

Door Decorating Contest

The annual Door Decorating Contest at the School of Nursing will culminate Monday, December 4 when the best decoration is selected.

The traditional contest offers a $20 first prize to the student or students who have the best Christmas decoration on their door. Additional prizes for second and third places are also awarded.

Alumni Assoc. Gift

The Alumni Association of the Nursing School has contributed $350 to Nursing Service for the updating of unit libraries. According to Miss McGonigle, Director of Nursing, the grant will be used to purchase updated reference material. Miss McGonigle expressed gratitude for the contribution.

Pool Trust Grants

The Pool Trust has approved funding for two programs centered at The Allentown Hospital.

The Lehigh Valley Poison Center received a $74,000 grant to expand its poison prevention programs.

The trust also funded a full-time Psychosocial Worker for the Allentown Hemophilia Treatment Center, headquartered at the hospital.

The psychosocial worker will coordinate counseling, education and therapy services for hemophiliacs and their families registered at the center.

Student Assoc. Gift

The Student Association of the Allentown Hospital School of Nursing purchased plant hangers to be placed in each student's room in the residence. The association also furnished some recreational equipment to be used by students.
### December, Big Month

The hospital’s Junior Aides will sponsor a wine tasting-recruitment party to be held at 8 P.M. Thursday, Dec. 7 at the Nurses Residence. The gathering is designed to recruit new members for the volunteer group which donates time to the hospital’s Pediatrics Department.

According to Lisa Landis, PR director for the Junior Aides, anyone interested in learning about the Aides or in joining the volunteer group is welcome to attend. For additional information on the Junior Aides, call Luella Shoemaker, 433-2909.

All new members are charged a $10 fee which covers operating costs. Members are also asked to serve on one of a variety of committees planning functions for the benefit of Pediatrics.

Among the functions sponsored by the Junior Aides are snack trailers for parades and public events, the annual Sno Ball, held in December, a New York City theater trip - this year to be held on Dec. 13, a card party - fashion show, an annual fall concert and a garage sale to be held this year Dec. 5. The aides also hold a monthly party for the children on Peds.

### MARRIAGES


William Berg, Jr., Central Supply to Debra Giuliani, LPN, T-3.

Kim Metzger, R.N., ICU and her husband, Brian are the parents of Megan A. Metzger. Born October 2, 1978.

### For Junior Aides

Employees and friends of the hospital are reminded that the Junior Aides will sponsor a Poinsettia sale Dec. 14 through 17 in the hospital’s main lobby. Proceeds will go the Pediatric department.

The Junior Aides will also sponsor the annual Sno Ball from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m., Saturday, Dec. 9 at the Jewish Community Center. Music will be by T.R. and the Reflections. Cost of the ball is $15 per couple. Reservations may be made by calling Julia Hummer, 433-1360. Participants must bring their own drinks. However, setups will be provided.

### Hospital Offering

The classes will cover a variety of topics such as emotional development of both parent and child, the impact of the first baby and the adjustments which may result. The film “Adapting to Parenthood” will be part of the program.

Speakers will be drawn from the appropriate departments of the Allentown Hospital including the Lehigh Valley Poison Center in the Allentown Hospital Emergency Room and a play therapist from the hospital’s pediatric unit. Childhood fears, stress and abuse will be covered by an instructor from the Allentown Hospital School of Nursing.

Registration forms may be picked up in any pediatrician’s or gynecologist’s office. Registration may also be made through Ann Duerst, program coordinator, 395-1044.

### BIRTHS

Barbara Woodley, Fiscal Affairs, and her husband Charles are the proud parents of Brett C. Woodley, born Oct. 6, 1978.

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**REFRESHER NURSES—**

These twelve nurses, rusty from raising families, are taking the hospital’s annual refresher course which enables former nurses to reacquaint themselves with the profession. The course runs for 16 weeks and is taught by Nancy Bahl, left, second row. This is the 7th refresher course offered by the In Service Department.
DONATION—Sixty three employees donated blood Oct. 31 when the Miller Memorial Blood Center mobile unit visited the hospital. Donations were made in ASU for the hospital's Blood Assurance Plan with Miller.

HELENE FULD DONATION—The Nursing School has received a van for transporting students to various institutions in the area. The multi-seated vehicle is a gift from the Helene Fuld Health Trust of New York and was gratefully accepted by Mrs. Josephine Ritz, Director of the school. Mrs. Ritz is seated in the front.

HORRORS—Nurses from the hospital emergency room turned out in force the night of Oct. 31 to join the annual Halloween Parade through downtown Allentown. The Poison Center float, background, won a third place award and depicted the “Horrors of Poisons.” From left to right are: Judy Grosser, Pat Rhoads, Margaret Parry, Sue Ann Fegan, Ilene Anderson, Deborah Thomas, Micki Morales, Deborah Billowitch and Carol Sterner.

OPEN HOUSE—Scores of high school students attended the annual Open House given by the School of Nursing Oct. 26. Student nurses were on hand to acquaint high school students about the nursing profession. Tours of the hospital were also offered.
Osborne Elected

Bill Osborne, Director of Purchasing, has been elected President of the Northeastern Chapter of the American Society of Hospital Purchasing and Materials Management. Bill was elected to the post at the group's September meeting.

Bill has been Purchasing agent here for the past five years. Prior to that he was in hospital purchasing in Wisconsin and spent 20 years with the Air Force.

Cook Books Ready

The Junior Aides' cookbook, "Time To Entertain," will be available for purchase early in December. The 200 page book draws from members of the Junior Aides for the 400 recipes. The book includes recipes for punches, children's parties, outdoor entertaining, buffets and wine and cheese parties.

Cost of the cookbook is $5.50 and a copy may be obtained by contacting Charlotte Cruse or a member of the Junior Aides.

Wants Games

Sally Effting, Nephrology Nurse Specialist, is asking employees to donate any old games and card decks for patients on T-5. Mrs. Effting notes that many of the T-5 (Renal) patients spend time in the floor's sitting area and would like games and other recreational items. The donations may be made to Mrs. Effting or to the floor.

MARRIAGES

Nancy Sala, Lab married Ronald Safko, Nov. 4, 1978.