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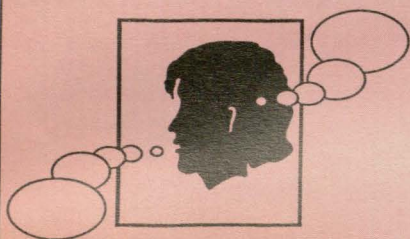
CONNECTIONS™

The monthly newspaper of The University Hospital • April 1991



The University Hospital

- UH interpreters provide healing words during difficult times



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- A little ingenuity goes a long way: Laser Center RN helps reduce anxiety for young patients

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- Getting your kids out of the house during April vacation week

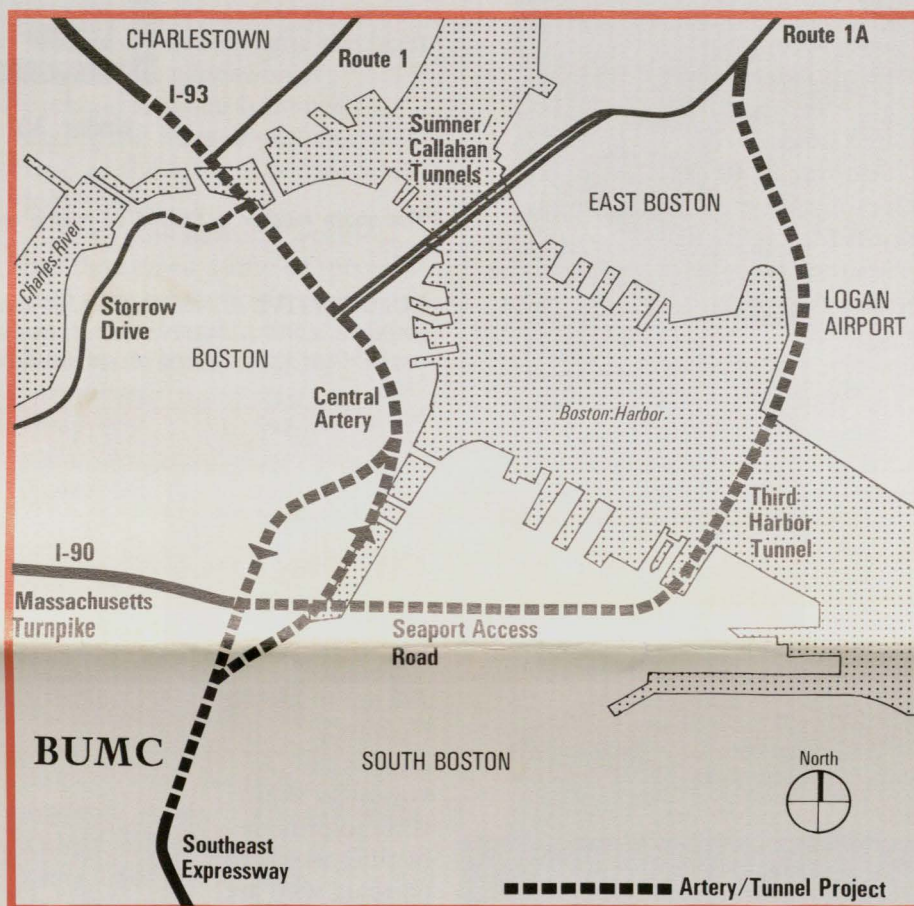
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- The spirit of volunteerism is alive and kicking (again) at UH

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The University Hospital
88 East Newton Street
Boston, Massachusetts

'Big Dig' update



CENTRAL ARTERY/TUNNEL PROJECT—Although the Central Artery/Tunnel (CA/T) Project is not expected to impact the South End medical area until at least 1993, members of the Boston University Medical Center/Boston City Hospital Transportation Management Association were brought up to date on the massive undertaking by CA/T representatives last month. See story page 4. (Map courtesy of CA/T Project).

Cenci Award, talk by medical ethicist headline Nurses Week

Nomination forms are available in the Nursing Staffing Office on Collamore 3 for the Fifth Annual Peggy Cenci Award to be conferred during nurse-recognition ceremonies on Thursday, May 9. Nominations are due Thursday, April 11.

The award is given annually in honor of the former nurse supervisor to a member of the UH Nursing Department. "Peggy always found time to listen to the concerns of others, to offer suggestions and to call upon the many resources available to her to benefit a colleague or patient," says Sarah Coleman,

continued on page 8

May Long: Where there's a hoop there's hope for Huntington's disease patients

She may be only 5'1", but May Long has the drive and determination of a giant. For the past 12 years, Long has served as executive director of the Huntington's Disease Society of America,



May Long

Massachusetts chapter, a position that requires a great amount of hard work and commitment.

"People ask me how I do it, but you learn how to cope. And you also learn to put any of life's problems into perspective. The satisfaction I receive from helping so many people is incredible," says Long.

Despite the grim outlook for Huntington's patients, who suffer from a degenerative neurologic disorder, Long keeps an upbeat at-

continued on page 6

New pension plan helps employees to better invest for the future

The Hospital has introduced a competitive and more attractive pension plan for employees, enabling them to invest their retirement dollars in an improved TIAA-CREF plan or in funds offered by Fidelity Investments, one of this country's largest investment-management firms.

"We sincerely believe that this new and improved pension program is one of the strongest among hospitals in the Commonwealth," says Susan C. Hancox, vice president, human resources.

The pension plan is offered to all regular employees over the age of 21 who are authorized to work at least 20 hours per week. In addition, employees must have been employed by the Hospital for at least one year.

continued on page 2

Pension plan

continued from page 1

New contribution formula

Under the new plan, a participating employee contributes two percent of his or her annual salary, which is placed in a fund chosen by the employee. The Hospital then contributes to that employee's fund, based on a new formula that takes into con-

\$600 per year. The Hospital, in turn, would contribute nine percent, or \$2,700 per year.

TIAA (Teachers Insurance and Annuity Association)—offers diversified portfolios of mortgages, real estate, publicly traded bonds, and direct loans to business and industry. CREF (College Retirement Equities Fund) offers a stock account, a money market account, and two new accounts: a bond market account and a social choice account.

With Fidelity Investments, employees may invest in 20 different funds.

More than 40 informational meetings for employees, which began March 25, have been scheduled through April 19, in the Keefer Auditorium. The Benefits staff will explain the new plan and have representatives from TIAA-CREF and Fidelity on hand to answer any questions employees might have. Benefits staff members also will assist employees in filling out the enrollment forms.

Employees who wish to participate in the new pension plan from the beginning must complete and return all enrollment forms by Tuesday, April 23. For further information, contact the Benefits Office at x8578. ■

UH contributes more than the employee is required to contribute

sideration an employee's age and years of employment. "The minimum amount that the Hospital contributes is greater than what the employee is required to contribute," says Benefits Manager Betty Green. "The Hospital is spending a significant amount of money; this plan is a major improvement."

For example, a 35-year-old employee with 16 years of service making a \$30,000 annual salary would contribute two percent or

UH wins grant to expand geriatrics training program

The Hospital's Section of Geriatrics recently was awarded a three-year faculty training grant in geriatric medicine and dentistry from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

The grant will expand the current fellowship program by adding two additional trainees in medicine and one in dentistry. Under the program, the fellows will receive training in the following areas: home care, ambulatory care, long-term care and

acute care. In addition, they will be given the opportunity to complete master's degree programs in public health.

The institutions involved in the program are: the University Hospital and its Home Medical Service, the Goldman School of Graduate Dentistry (GSGD), the Jewish Memorial Hospital in Roxbury, the Edith Norse Rogers Memorial Veterans Medical Center in Bedford, and the Boston University-Framingham Heart Study.

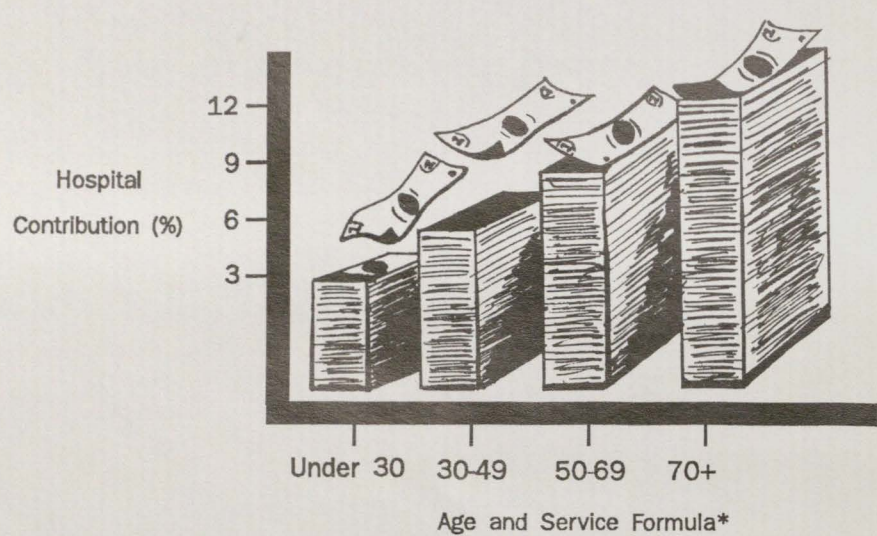
The program, to begin July 1, will be under the direction of R. Knight Steel, M.D., UH chief of geriatrics, and Steve Gordon, D.M.D., of the GSGD. ■

Get a handle on Occupational Therapy

Occupational Therapy staff will sponsor a "hands-on" informational display on Wednesday, April 17, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., on Atrium 2, in recognition of Occupational Therapy month.

O.T. staff members urge their coworkers and visitors to stop by the display and discover what O.T. can do for them. ■

How dollars are awarded



(*The above number is derived by adding an employee's age to his or her years of service)

COMPETITIVE PENSION PLAN—Under a new contribution formula, employees contribute two percent of their annual salaries, while the Hospital contributes funds based on an employee's age and years of service.

HEALING WORDS:

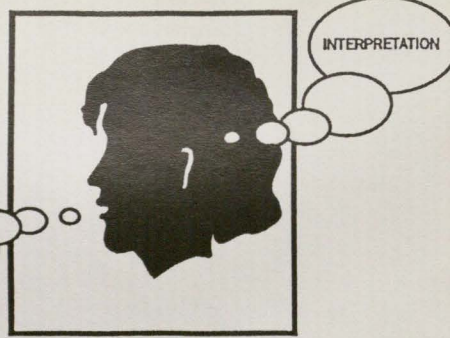
UH interpreters provide a vital service to patients in times of need

More than 100 Hospital employees volunteer their time to provide healing words to patients who are unable to speak the English language. The Hospital's interpreters converse fluently in 34 languages, and are called upon to bridge communications between physician and patient.

"This is definitely an essential service. Obviously, you can't provide patient care without communicating," notes Anita King, R.N., assistant director for nursing systems. Interpreters can be reached 24 hours a day, although, ideally, calls should be placed to the Nursing Department 24 hours in advance. Interpretation for certain languages not spoken by Hospital employees can be provided by an outside pool of interpreters.

Multicultural environment

Rebecca Bresnick of human resources is responsible for recruiting new employees into the program. "With such a diverse group of people who work here, it is important to realize that English is not the only language spoken." As a Spanish interpreter, Bresnick has been called on to assist patients in need—some at more critical times than others. "I translated



for a woman whose daughter was dying of AIDS. Despite her grief, she was appreciative that she had the opportunity to ask the doctor questions. It really makes a difference for our patients and their families to understand what's happening."

Nursing's King points out to people who may request an interpreter to specify the dialect spoken by the patient. "We frequently forget to ask that question, and the interpreter may not be able to assist the patient. For example, there are many dialects of Chinese—we need to know specifically which one the patient speaks." Furthermore, she hopes to convey to managers the significance of the program so that when their employees are called on to interpret, they will be given the go-ahead.

To request an interpreter, call the Nursing Staffing Office at x5820 (638-5820). Employees interested in volunteering can call Rebecca Bresnick in human resources at x8585 (638-8585). ■

Mail-room forms are now a must

A change in mail-room protocol requiring the use of special forms for all external mail was implemented last month, in response to a notable increase in departmental postage expenses.

"We don't want to alienate people with more forms. The purpose of this change is to facilitate a more efficient way to manage our expenses and to save money," says Facilities Management Director Martha Bil Manevich, who is leading a Hospital task force to study the matter.

Under the change, the postage expense for each cost center will



be recorded and reviewed so that managers can include the expense in their annual budgets, beginning with fiscal year 1991-1992. To identify some 240 cost centers, all external mail that is to be processed by the mail room must be accompanied by postal-services request forms. "This includes even a single piece of external mail," says Bil Manevich.

The forms that are currently in use are only temporary; simpler forms are on the way. ■

Laser Center RN finds unique way to ease young patients' fears about treatment

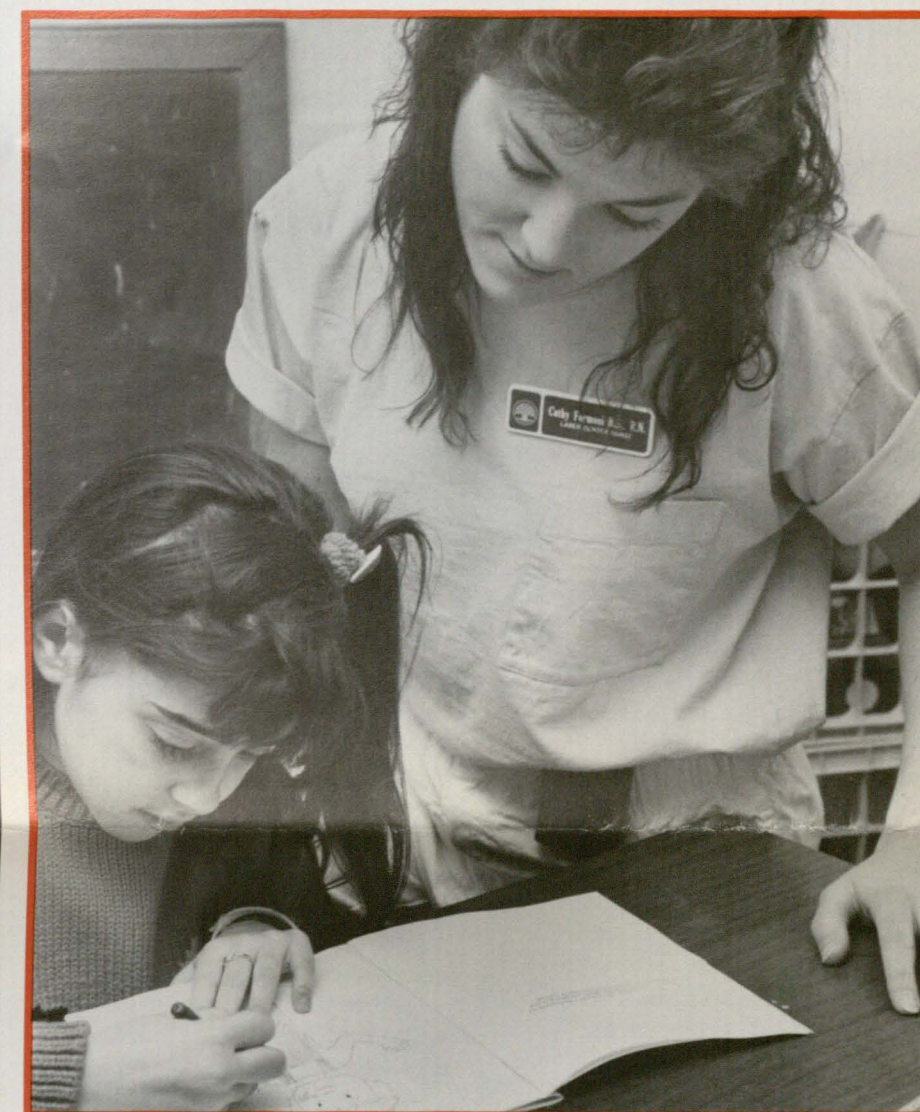
Laser Center nurse Cathy Formosi, R.N., knows how scary it is for young patients to undergo painful laser treatments to remove reddish-purplish facial birthmarks, known as portwine stains. As a nurse, she has been taught that education is invaluable when it comes to easing the fears of patients, as well as the fears of people who love them.

With this in mind, Formosi has developed a line of specialized toys, including a model of a laser, a doll with a facial birthmark and a coloring book. "Treatment is definitely a tough thing for a kid to undergo. It's not a pleasant experience. That's why I wanted to make it pleasant," says Formosi.

For new patients, a fear of the unknown—what the laser is going to feel and sound like—spurs high anxiety in even the bravest of patients. Formosi says the coloring book—which she designed, printed and bound—helps to erase some of that anxiety. It describes everything a child will encounter at the Laser Center, including sitting in the waiting room, receiving anesthesia, the laser treatment itself, and getting a lollipop at the end of the visit. All the children depicted in "A Visit to the Laser Center" have portwine stains; the book also depicts actual Laser Center staff.

Knowing what to expect

"The coloring book is clear cut. It tells the patients exactly what is going to happen to them," Formosi notes. The book and the



TAKING AWAY SOME OF THE FEAR—Laser Center nurse Cathy Formosi takes time out to play with patient Regina Russo, 7, of Utica, N.Y., who colors in "A Visit to the Laser Center."

other toys also enable patients to show their families what they go through during treatment.

The doll and the miniature laser machine, which Formosi and her father constructed together, are more popular with returning patients, Formosi notes. For some, the play experience is so genuine that they'll use the simulated laser on the doll, pretending to make the doll shriek when the laser strikes the doll's face.

Seven-year-old Regina Russo of Utica, N.Y., has a still-noticeable yet fading portwine stain on her nose. Her favorite things about coming to the Laser Center, she admits, are the coloring book, and the balloon and lollipop she receives at the end of her treatment. On this particular day, Regina's father, Phil; her mother, Flo, and Regina's younger sister, Noel, accompany her on the visit, having made the exhausting five-hour drive to the Hospital the previous day. "We like to make it a family affair. I have two other

sons and we usually alternate as to who comes on the trip," says Flo Russo. Mrs. Russo says she thinks Formosi's toys are a wonderful addition to the Laser Center waiting room. "They take Regina's mind off what she ultimately has to do, and they make her feel more relaxed."

Formosi advocates involving parents and family members in a patient's treatment. "I try to give them as much information as I give the patient. The more educated the parents are about the procedure, the less anxious they feel," Formosi acknowledges.

"I encourage parents to be honest with their children. I don't want them to say that it's not going to hurt, because it will. I always tell the kids that it's okay if they cry and I try to get them to talk about other things," she continues. "It's all just a matter of getting to know a patient and what takes his or her mind off the pain." This Laser Center nurse seems to be right on the mark. ■



Transportation group given 'Big Dig' update

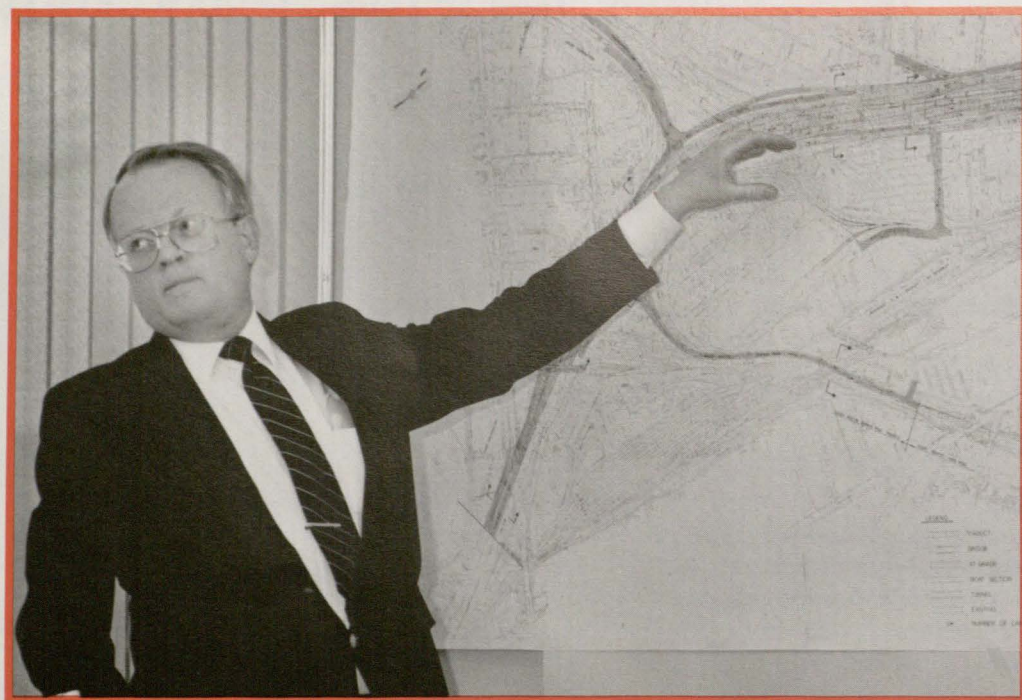
Representatives of the Central Artery/Tunnel (CA/T) Project last month brought members of the Boston University Medical Center/Boston City Hospital Transportation Management Association (TMA) up to date on the massive highway project.

The update was given at the request of the TMA, which was formed last fall between the Medical Center and Boston City Hospital to address key transportation and commuting issues for the South End medical area.

The Central Artery/Tunnel Project—the largest transportation undertaking of its kind in the United States—has lagged behind schedule, and is currently awaiting environmental approval from the Commonwealth. CA/T officials, however, hope to obtain that go-ahead within the next several months, reported CA/T Regional Liaison Richard Jarvis.

Using slides and a map, Jarvis presented an overview of the project, pointing out assorted details of interest. He said that the new Central Artery would be constructed while keeping the existing elevated Artery and tunnels open. "We've made a major commitment to the City of Boston that we will keep traffic moving. Pedestrian access is also important to us. We are committed to keeping pedestrian access ways open," he noted. Construction of the new underground roadway—with an anticipated 1998 completion date—will double the capacity of the existing elevated highway.

According to Jarvis, nearly 30 acres of green space, and much-improved air quality are expected to replace the existing Central Artery. The project also is expected to spur the local economy through the creation of some



PROJECT ROUTE—Walter Herrick of Bechtel/Parsons Brinckerhoff explains various details of the project.

15,000 jobs, he noted. "About a third of that number—approximately 5,000—will be actual construction jobs. The rest will be 'spin-off' jobs, such as supplying goods and services during construction," Jarvis explained.

Construction of a four-lane, 4,200-foot long Third Harbor Tunnel—to open in 1994—is expected to ease traffic flow in and out of Boston's Logan Airport, Jarvis pointed out.

Impact on South End area

The project's impact on the South End medical area will not be felt at least until 1993, if all goes as

scheduled, according to Walter Herrick of the engineering firm Bechtel/Parsons Brinckerhoff. Current plans are to rebuild—not to depress—the southern portion of the existing Central Artery, from Kneeland Street in Chinatown to Southampton Street. "This may demand that commuters to this area take slightly different routes—sometimes with improved or slightly different accesses," Herrick said.

Although they are designing the construction project to minimize disruptions, the project officials noted that they encourage Boston commuters to seek alternative modes of transportation. ■

Focusing on your commuting options

Members of the Medical Center/Boston City Hospital Transportation Management Association (TMA) urge employees to take a second look at their commuting alternatives.

In celebration of National Transportation Week from May 13 to 17, TMA members are planning a variety of transportation-related events, including an opportunity for employees to view a built-to-scale, three-dimensional model of the Central Artery/Tunnel Project. Interested employees will be shuttled to One South Station during lunchtime to view the model.

The TMA is working with the results of a transportation survey that was distributed last fall in order to present members of the Medical Center community with transportation options.

Additional details on events planned for National Transportation Week will appear in next month's **Connections**. ■

QUALITY CARE

(The following letter was sent to UH President J. Scott Abercrombie Jr., M.D., earlier this year by Rosa C. De Britton, M.D., general director of the Instituto Oncologico Nacional in El Dorado, Panama, who was thankful for UH donations made to her institution.)

Dear Dr. Abercrombie:

On behalf of our government and myself, I want to thank you for the donation of various equipment by your hospital to Panama through the mediation and efforts of [UH Anesthesiology Chief] Marcelle Willock, M.D.

Gestures like this confirm again the friendship that unites us, even after all the turmoil of recent months. Thank God things are quiet now, but it will take a long time to rebuild our country after a dictatorship of 20 years. All the equipment donated has been properly distributed. The stainless [steel] furniture was installed in a new health center that is being built in one of the poorest neighborhoods of the capital.

Be assured of our gratitude and blessings for your generosity.

Sincerely,
Rosa C. De Britton, M.D. ■

condition. Must see! Asking \$82K. Call Cindy at x7869.

• **First anniversary specials:** MG's Cafe in the Doctors Office Building will celebrate its first anniversary of business on Tuesday, April 9, with the following specials: Coffee: \$.35, 8 or 12 oz., all day; Mario's Combo Platter: Kibbeh, hommous, a side-salad, and pita bread, \$2.50 (regularly \$3.50); George's Combo Platter: Falafel, tabbouleh, a side-salad, and pita bread, \$2.50 (regularly \$3.50). Enjoy a complimentary piece of baklava from 10:30 a.m. until closing or while supplies last.

Classified ads for outside organizations or persons cost \$25; BUMC personnel can advertise for free. Call x8482 (638-8482). ■

• **For rent:** Boston/Park Drive area. Studios from \$495; 1-bedrooms from \$595, and 2-bedrooms from \$900. No fee; heat/hot water included; parking available; shuttle bus, T; laundry; 24-hour maintenance. Call (617) 247-3070, open seven days.

• **For rent:** South End apartment, four blocks from UH. Renovated; 2-bedrooms; hardwood floors. No fee; \$650/mo. Call 782-8427.

• **For sale:** A pair of 4x6 handmade Persian rugs. Beautiful with vivid colors (Tabriz); \$750. Call H. Nassery, at x4766; leave message.

• **For sale:** Beautiful, large, 1-bedroom condo in W. Roxbury. Central air; convenient to T; lots of storage; move-in

CLASSIFIED

Don't miss your Connection

The deadline for **Connections** is the first Friday of each month.

Send all story or photo suggestions to Cynthia Lepore, Robinson 7, (B-7), or call x8482 (638-8482). ■



A LUNCHTIME TREAT—Executive Vice President for Operations Jacqueline A. Dart serves up a container of popcorn to Maintenance staffer Rod O'Connor during UH's First Annual Discount Fair on February 26. The event was a smashing success among some 500 employees who followed their noses to the scent of the delicious corn, where more than 13 vendors offered discounts and valuable prizes.

TODAY'S PARENTS

Occupying your and your children's time during April school vacation week

by Peggy Kociubes

It seems we've just had February school vacation week and here we are facing April vacation. Fortunately, Boston has a wealth of activities for children of all ages.

Boston University School Vacation Program: April 15-19; grades K-5; West Campus of Boston University, primarily Case Center and Rich Hall.

Hours and fees: 8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m.; \$110. Activities include: Gymnastics, basketball, ice skating, music, soccer, arts & crafts. Call 353-5954.

Boston YWCA School Vacation Camp: April 15-19; ages 6-12; 140 Clarendon Street.

Hours and fees: 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; \$65. Activities: Swimming, chess, gym, overnights, movies. Call 536-7940, ext. 152.

Boston YMCA School Vacation Camp: April 15-19; ages 5-12; 616 Huntington Ave.

Hours and fees: 8 a.m.-6 p.m.; \$65 for members; \$75 for non-members. Activities: Swimming, sports, games, cooking, arts/crafts, field trips. Call 536-7800.

Jewish Community Center: April 15-19; grades K-6; 333 Nahanton Street, Newton Centre.

Hours: 10 a.m.-4 p.m. (with early and late options). Members only. Activities: Gym, pool, aquarium, Big Apple Circus. Call 965-7410.

Families looking for pleasant diversions for children continuing in their regular child-care arrangements might consider the following options:

• The New England Aquarium Central Wharf, Boston 973-5200

Hours: Monday through Wednesday 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; Thursday, 9 a.m.-8 p.m.; Friday 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Children under age 3 admitted free; ages 4-15, \$6.50; adults, \$7.50.

• The Puppet Showplace Brookline 731-6400

• Drumlin Farm Lincoln 259-9807

• Boston by Little Feet 77 North St., Boston 367-2345

Ages 6-12; Sundays at 2 p.m.; \$5 per child (must be accompanied

by adult).

• Museum of Afro-American History 46 Joy Street, Boston 742-1854; 742-5415

• Museum of Fine Arts 465 Huntington Ave., Boston 267-9300

• Boston Children's Museum Museum Wharf, 300 Congress Street, Boston

Hours: Tuesday-Sunday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Friday until 9 p.m. Open Mondays during Boston school vacation week and holidays. \$5 per child, age 2-15; \$6 per adult.

• Boston Museum of Science Science Park, Boston 723-2500

Hours: Tuesday to Sunday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; Friday until 9 p.m. Open school vacation weeks and holidays. \$4.50 for children, under age 4 admitted free; \$6 for adults.

• The Computer Museum Museum Wharf, Boston 426-2800

Hours: Tuesday through Sunday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. \$5 for children; under age 5 admitted free; \$6 for adults. ■

ASK IT!

ASK IT! is a *Connections* column that shares with readers some of the questions employees and staff have about the University Hospital, with answers provided by UH President J. Scott Abercrombie Jr., M.D. **ASK IT!** forms are available by the transitional elevators on New Evans 2 (E-2), on Old Evans 3 (D-3), and in the SkyLight Dining Pavilion.

Extending the hours of the Broadway shuttle

? Could the hours of the shuttle service to Broadway be extended to coincide with visiting hours?

A I asked Donald Giller, vice president for marketing, planning and public affairs for his

views. Mr. Giller has been involved with coordinating transportation and parking at BUMC for a number of years. He informed me that for approximately 12 months in the mid-1980s, the Broadway shuttle hours were extended to run throughout the day. Despite the fact that efforts were made to promote use of the shuttle service to outpatients and to visitors, there was virtually no use of the shuttle by these groups, and the extended hours were discontinued.

Thank you for your interest.
J. Scott Abercrombie Jr., M.D. ■

Organ Donor Awareness Week

Educating the public on the dire need for donated organs and tissues will be the focus of National Organ and Tissue Donor Awareness Week, being observed from April 21 to 27.

More than 850 people in New England are currently waiting for organ transplants and thousands more need donated tissue, according to Elizabeth Strock, director of public education for the New England Organ Bank.

UH, one of the region's major kidney-transplant centers and a member of the New England Organ Bank, will sponsor an informational exhibit on Monday, April 22, from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., on Atrium 2. ■



YOU SAID IT

How do you think the recent events in the Persian Gulf will affect the United States economy?



Kim Loeschner, Microbiology: "I think it might improve a little bit but I don't think it will change drastically. We'll still remain in a recession because [the recession] has more to do with what's going on in this country than what's going on overseas."



Jean Chennis, Nutrition Services: "Certainly oil prices will be affected, and I'm sure taxes will be raised since Americans will go over [to the Gulf] to help those countries rebuild. Of course, we working people eventually will have to pay for all of this one way or another."



John teDuits, Facilities Management: "I believe that the Middle East crisis will have little direct effect on our overall economy. The continued increase in unemployment, the large number of bankruptcies and the staggering losses being experienced by many large corporations cannot do anything but further weaken our economy. Contrary to the pundits who expect a turnaround at the end of the year, I believe it will take a couple of years before things really improve."



Clide Niles, M.D., Neurology: "In the short-term, the economy will certainly benefit from the recent turn of events. The spinoff from rebuilding the Middle East will benefit American companies, which will be asked to take part in this reconstruction effort. [These companies] will have to employ people, so I see an increase in the workforce in the United States. People will then have money to spend."

Learn how the E.A.P. can help you

Employees can learn about the Hospital's newly formed Employee Assistance Program (E.A.P.) at several informational sessions to be held this month in the Atrium C/D Conference Room. The schedule for the sessions is as follows:

- Tuesday, April 9: 3:30 to 3:45 p.m., and 4 to 4:15 p.m.
- Wednesday, April 10: 7 to 7:15 a.m., and 7:30 to 7:45 a.m.
- Wednesday, April 17: 11:30 to 11:45 a.m., and noon to 12:15 p.m.
- Thursday, April 18: 7 to 7:15 a.m., and 7:30 to 7:45 a.m.
- Friday, April 26: 11:30 to 11:45 a.m., and noon to 12:15 p.m.
- Monday, April 29: 3:30 to 3:45 p.m., and 4 to 4:15 p.m. ■

May Long

continued from page 1

titude, hoping to provide whatever assistance she can for the myriad of patients and their family members who call or write the chapter, which is based at the Medical Center.

Estelle Bernhardt of Brookline, one of four part-time volunteers in Long's office, has given unselfishly of her time to the Huntington's Disease Society for 10 years. "I don't like office work, but I feel committed—to May, and to our patients," she notes. Two of the other volun-

The 1991 Hoopathon is Thursday, April 25

teers, Ron Maloney and Donna Reed, are Huntington's disease patients; the fourth, Lori Engelhardt, suffers from cerebral palsy. Because of their physical limitations, they perform such routine but nonetheless invaluable tasks as stuffing and addressing envelopes, and answering the telephone.

Dunking baskets for bucks

A good portion of Long's energies are focused on the annual Hoopathon for Huntington's Disease, a 24-hour basketball free-throw event held each spring, featuring local television and radio personalities, which raises money to combat the debilitating disease. This year's 12th annual Hoopathon will take place on Thursday, April 25, in the Solomon Carter Fuller Mental Health Center gymnasium, beginning at 6 a.m. As always, Medical Center personnel are

welcome to attend the event or to participate as basketball shooters.

"The Hoopathon keeps growing and getting better. People really look forward to it," says Long, who assumed her current position after serving as a volunteer. The concept of dunking basketballs for bucks came indirectly from her son, she notes. "He had participated in a hoopathon at Brookline High School and I just transferred that idea here."

The money raised from the hoop-shoot funds research and social-service programs for Huntington's patients and their families. Some of the \$40,000 generated from the 1990 Hoopathon financed a weekend camp last July for 10 Huntington's patients at Boston University's Sargent Camp in Petersborough, N.H., an outing that Long hopes will become an annual event.

So how does Long do it all? Her answer is partially reflected in the way she lovingly describes some of the patients with whom she has developed close ties over the years. "These people have so many problems but they are so appreciative of every little thing we do for them. They make you feel like it's worth carrying on." ■

Huntington's symposium

Understanding and Managing the Symptoms of Huntington's Disease" is the title of a day-long symposium on Huntington's disease, which will be held at the Middlesex County Hospital in Waltham on Saturday, May 11.

The symposium, sponsored by the Massachusetts chapter of the Huntington's Disease Society of America (HDSA), will be chaired by Roberta F. White, Ph.D., A.B.P.P., an associate professor of neurology at Boston University School of Medicine. The program is designed to help participants better understand the symptoms and behavioral problems relating to the disease, become acquainted with community resources for treatment, and learn intervention strategies.

For further information, contact May Long, executive director, HDSA, Massachusetts chapter, at x8333 (638-8333). ■

The University Hospital

BLOOD DONOR PROGRAM



Give blood...

Every drop counts

Call x7855 for more information. No appointment necessary. ■

COMING UP:

Charter Day, Night at Fenway Park highlight spring events for friends of UH

As the federal government continues to decrease its reimbursement dollars to American hospitals, health-care providers have been forced to readjust their bottom lines, as well as to rely more heavily on philanthropy.

Here at UH, donations made to patient care, education and research help the Hospital to meet its goals, and allow it to better realize its vision for the future. In recognition of the friends of the University Hospital who are able to contribute, the following events have been planned. For further information, contact the Development Office at x8990 (638-8990).

April 25

President's Council Reception: Upstairs at the Pudding, Cambridge. This event is for contributors of \$1,000 or more to the Hospital's Annual Fund.

May 20

Charter Day: corporators' seminar and donor-recognition luncheon for contributors to the Hospital of \$100 or more.

June 14

Auxiliary Night at Fenway Park: includes dinner at the Diamond Club and a ticket to the 7:30 p.m. game, Red Sox vs. California Angels. Tickets cost \$30 for children under age 12, and \$35 for adults. Call Judy Andersen at (508) 887-8465, or Kelly Baxter in the Development Office at x8990 (638-8990). This event is open to non-contributors, as well as to contributors.

July 15

Third Annual Marty Semler Golf Tournament: to benefit medical oncology, at the South Shore Country Club in Hingham.

September 23

Third Annual Harriet Abramson Golf and Tennis Tournament: to benefit the Hospital's Chemotherapy Suite on Preston (F) 3.

October 12

Capital Campaign Kickoff: black-tie dinner dance and the largest "Jeopardy" tournament ever, at the Copley Marriott Hotel, Boston.

November 3

10th Annual Physicians Recognition Brunch: for members of the Hospital's Medical-Dental Staff (location to be announced).

November 7

The President's Council and Cumulative Giving Societies Reception: at the Castle at Boston University. This event is for contributors of \$1,000 or more.

December 16

The 137th Annual General Meeting of the Hospital Corporation: at the University Hospital. ■

UHer sees her brother's safe return from Gulf war



SAFE ARRIVAL HOME—Kate Murphy holds a photograph of her brother, Stephen Amirault, and his family. The Amiraults will be reunited this coming weekend in Niceville, Fla., where Stephen is stationed.

The blue metal bracelet adorning Blood Bank Supervisor Kate Murphy's right wrist is not just a fashion statement. Engraved on the bracelet is the name of Murphy's 39-year-old brother, Air Force Technical Sergeant Stephen Amirault, who completed a two-month tour of duty in Saudi Arabia on February 23— just four days before the end of the Persian Gulf war.

Murphy purchased the bracelet soon after her brother's departure from the states on December 26. Despite the end of combat, she says she'll continue to wear the bracelet until all of the American troops serving in the Gulf touch down again on native soil.

Relieved war is over

"I'm very relieved that the war is over. I don't think it was ever just a war though, it was more about people. And I don't think the United States should serve as the police force to that country now that the war has ended. I think the troops should come home," explains Murphy. Although Murphy's brother never saw any military action, his role in defending the United States was to perform technical repairs on radars units in F-15 and F-16 fighter jets.

Murphy says she and her family are planning a celebratory reunion at the Eglin Air Force Base in Niceville, Fla., where Stephen Amirault, his wife and children, are stationed. Closer to home, Murphy notes, a plaque outside Winthrop City Hall honoring her brother and 17 other local soldiers serving in the Gulf provides a reminder of their service.

Murphy was only one of several UH personnel with relatives or friends serving in the Persian Gulf. Human resources staff have gathered the following names of fellow employees or their family members who are stationed in the Gulf:

Major Jonathon Woodson, M.D., Division of Surgery: 86th Evacuation Hospital, APO, N.Y. 07734.

Lori Ferrante, Occupational Therapy: sister of Lt. Kevin Flynn, USS Trenton (LPD 14) FPO, New York, N.Y. 09588-1716.

Ivy Key, E.K.G.: sister of Albert J. Key, EM2 Key, USS Cape Cod, AD43 R3, Div FPO CA. S.F., 96649.

Maritza Zavala, Medical Records: friend of Lt. Thomas P. Morse, Det 1, Elf One (DHA), P.O. Box 877, APO, N.Y. 09616. ■

Volunteer Program back in action at UH

by Susan H. Plumb

The UH Volunteer Program has been reestablished after some four and a half years, and volunteers are already busy at work throughout the Hospital, reports the program's director Mary Chin.

"I think that UH will benefit

from the help of volunteers. Presently, I am concentrating on providing support to reception areas, such as the entrance to the Atrium," says Chin, who is also the director of social services at UH.

Cloteal Proctor has been volunteering her time for the past 10 years to various organizations. "I was born to be a volunteer; this is

what I do," Proctor says matter-of-factly.

Proctor, who is disabled, also gives her time to Partners for Disabled Youth in Boston. "We act as role models for disabled youths. We want to show them that they can do what everyone else is doing," she says.

'UH is me'

Proctor, who serves as a receptionist at the information desk in the Atrium, says she chose UH because it offers her an opportunity to interact with people. "Volunteering gives me a great feeling because I can contribute to society. UH is more me than any other hospital. I really like it here; everyone is friendly." Currently, she is volunteering six hours per week, but hopes to increase her hours to 12.

Overcoming a fear of hospitals

"I was the type of person that if

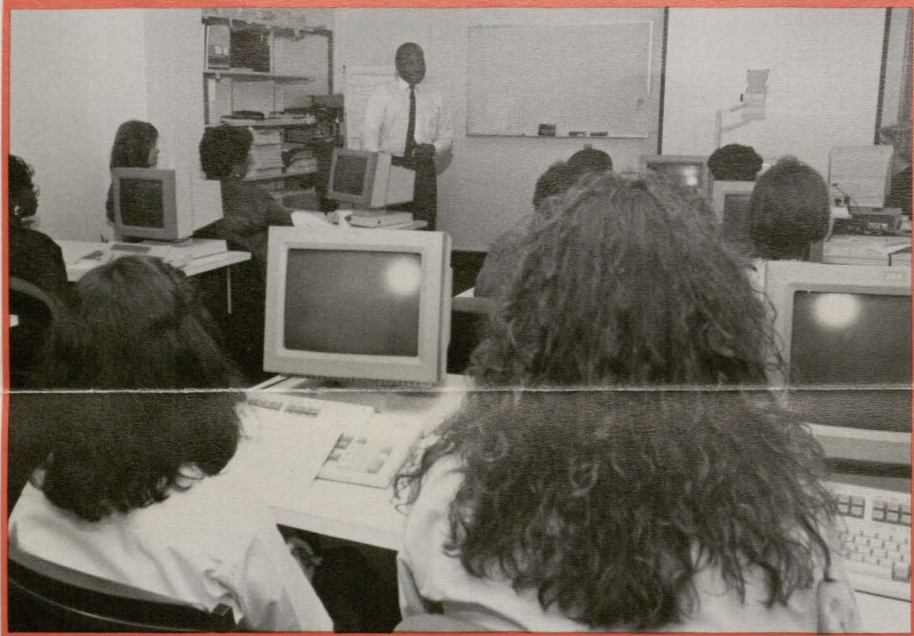
my best friend was in the hospital, I would wait until he was home to see him. I had an aversion to hospitals," admits John J. Jacobbe, a volunteer visitor at the University Hospital.

"In 1989, I had to have extensive open heart surgery. It was an unusual year for me. Now that I have recovered, I want to give something back that was given to me—the gift of life."

As a recovering heart-surgery patient, Jacobbe was invited to join The Mended Hearts of Boston. Through his involvement with that organization, Jacobbe heard about a need for hospital volunteers. "I was interested in helping, so the chairperson of the visitors' program at Mended Hearts contacted [UH Cardiothoracic Surgery Chief] Dr. Shemin for me and he thought that starting a visitors' program at UH was a wonderful idea," recounts Jacobbe.

Jacobbe visits the cardiothoracic unit on Atrium 6-West each week. "I talk to patients who are recovering from heart and lung operations. I know how they are feeling and explain that I've been there. They really open up to me." ■

In training...



GETTING TO KNOW CHIP—Hundreds of Hospital personnel are undergoing intensive training to familiarize themselves with the Hospital's Computerized Hospital Information Processor (CHIP). CHIP will be brought online next month, and is expected to provide a significant boost to the delivery of patient care. At the head of the class is instructor Thornton Shepherd of Management Information Systems.

Walking for hunger

More than 40,000 people are expected to converge on Boston Common on Sunday, May 5, for Project Bread's 22nd Annual Walk for Hunger. Amid the throng of walkers and well-wishers will be members of the UH community, particularly Nursing Department staff, who for years have supported this effort to feed the hungry. The walk kicks off the Hospital's celebration of National Nurses Week.

One of the walk's coordinators at UH, Mary Landrum, R.N., I.V. therapy coordinator, urges people to participate in some manner, and she stresses that potential walkers shouldn't feel pressured to complete the 20-mile trek.



Richard Ridge, R.N., nurse manager for Atrium 6-North, administers a first-aid station along the route, adjacent to a nursing lunch stop, where weary UH walkers can stop for sustenance. Last year, the first-aid staff treated more than 120 walkers, who were afflicted by a variety of ailments from blisters to callouses to just plain sore feet.

Registration and sponsor sheets for this year's Walk for Hunger are available at the Nursing Staff Office, Collamore 309 (C-309), or by calling x5820. ■

Nurses Week

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L.P.N., of Atrium 8-East, the chairperson of the Peggy Cenci Award Committee.

Celebrating Nurses Week

Nurse-recognition ceremonies at UH are held annually in conjunction with National Nurses Week. In keeping with tradition, the week will open with the Walk for Hunger on Sunday, May 5. On Thursday, May 9, UH nurses will be honored at morning and afternoon services in the C/D Conference Room. In addition to providing excellent patient care at the bedside, the nurses to be honored contribute to the professional image and growth of the Nursing Department.

This year's distinguished lecturer is Willard Gaylin, M.D., president and cofounder of the Hastings Center, Briar Cliff Manor, N.Y., a research institute focused on ethical issues in the life sciences.

Gaylin, a clinical professor of psychiatry at Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons, is scheduled to speak on "Ethical Issues in Nursing," on Wednesday, May 8, from 4 to 6 p.m., in Keefer Auditorium.

Gaylin has written 15 books on ethical issues in medicine. ■

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Departmental correspondents: Mary Chin, Social Service; Edward Christiansen Jr., Legal Counsel; Bonnie R. Clendenning, Development; Paul Corbett, Materials Management; Cheryl Franchi, Nutrition Services; David Fraser, Human Resources; Carla Henderson, Medical Records, Utilization Review, Quality Assurance; Cass Ladd, Rehabilitation Support Services; Nancy Lundgren, Facilities Management; Nancy McAward, Nursing; Kathleen Murphy, Laboratory Services; Christine Roby-Wilson, Cardiothoracic Surgery; Alan Tibbetts, Environmental Services, and Linda Viano, Diagnostic and Therapeutic Services.

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