

1978-05-04

Take one: May 4, 1978

Boston University Medical Center. Take One: May 4, 1978. Archived in OpenBU at [uri].

<https://hdl.handle.net/2144/23402>

Downloaded from DSpace Repository, DSpace Institution's institutional repository

short takes

REMEMBER WINTER -- AND GET
THAT PNEUMONIA VACCINE NOW

With spring in the air, few people think about getting pneumonia or the flu. But, according to Constance Cornog, M.D., director of the Employee Health Service, that may not be a good idea. "Getting a pneumonia vaccine now, before the flu season and the rush for flu shots, would be a good way to avoid getting two shots later on, when the cold weather begins and it's easy to think about getting sick," said Cornog.

Immunization against bacterial pneumonia is being offered at the Employee Health Service, H-1, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays. The cost for the shot is \$5, for which any staff members with Medicaid benefits would be reimbursed.

Cornog adds that immunization is especially important for people more than 60 years of age, or for anyone with such chronic illnesses as diabetes, heart disease or emphysema.

PATIENT RESTING COMFORTABLY
AFTER SUCCESSFUL USE OF
ARTIFICIAL HEART PUMP

The Hospital's distinguished history of pioneering research in heart disease was underscored once again last week when a radio report stirred news media interest in the apparently successful use of an artificial heart pump on a UH patient who was near death.

UH surgeons, led by Robert L. Berger, M.D., chief of cardiothoracic surgery, implanted the device when the patient's own heart was unable to keep him alive. The pump, called the left ventricular assist device, took over the work of pumping blood to the body, allowing the patient's own heart to repair itself for a period of 4-1/2 days.

The patient, whose identity is being withheld in accordance with the Hospital's privacy policy, was reported Tuesday to be resting comfortably and in stable condition.

A critical point in the surgical procedure was

passed successfully when the device was removed and the patient's heart function was successfully taken over by his own heart, supported by a conventional intra-aortic balloon pump. That pump, too, was eventually removed. Until now, approximately 20 patients in Boston and Houston have received the artificial heart pump, but none has survived.

The LVAD is similar in concept to a total, permanently implanted artificial heart, which is considered preferable to a human heart transplant.

Assisting Berger in the surgery were University Hospital physicians John R. McCormick, M.D., a cardiothoracic surgeon, Joseph Stetz, M.D., chief cardiothoracic resident, and a large nursing team. Support was provided by Dr. Bernhard of Children's Hospital and his staff.

Berger praised University Hospital's open-heart team and night and day nursing staffs for their role during surgery and the succeeding period of intensive care.

around about UH

Paul Marcin, business and parking manager for Plant Services and veteran runner, finished this year's Boston marathon in four hours and ten minutes....Dan Lauber, D.D.S., a postdoctoral student in periodontology, finished his first marathon this year "with dignity," in three hours and thirty-one minutes....Readers who took the time last week to cooperate in the Take One evaluation have the deep appreciation of the Office of Informational Services staff. We are going through the returns and hope to be able in the near future to present a recap of what the survey told us. For those who kept that issue of Take One and just never got around to filling out the survey form, please take a minute now to do it. Take One is vitally interested in your opinions, and a better publication will result from your participation....The American Association of Blood Banks has accredited the UH Blood Bank for two years. The AABB inspected the UH Blood Bank last November....Governor Michael S. Dukakis has proclaimed May 7 through May 13 as National Hospital Week in Massachusetts, with the

theme of "Hospitals Wish You Well." The theme, selected by the American Hospital Association, will focus on the growing involvement of hospitals in health education and preventive medicine and the need for people to take personal responsibility for changing damaging lifestyles.

ONLY THE BEST FOR UH --
TRUE IN 1892 AS IT IS TODAY

Staff excellence has long been a tradition at UH, even in 1892, when we were known as Massachusetts Homeopathic Hospital: in that year, Alice Griswold, director of the Hospitals' School of Nursing, hired Boston's Fannie Farmer to teach a course in "invalid cookery."

classified

CAR FOR SALE

1967 Pontiac Lemans. Ugly but dependable transportation with rebuilt transmission, brakes, valves. Has AM/FM, power steering, power brakes and air conditioning. Needs a U-joint and muffler. \$275 or best offer. Larry, x6425.

OFFICE EQUIPMENT FOR SALE

Dictating and transcribing equipment for sale. Several units available including desk top and portable IBM belt system. Virtually new. Please call 247-6726.

UNIFORMS FOR SALE

Three white uniforms--2 dresses and 1 pantsuit--sizes 3 and 5. Worn several times, just purchased in March. Changed profession, no longer needed. Original price for all three was \$65. Will sell for \$35. Call Erin at x5369 or 335-4535.



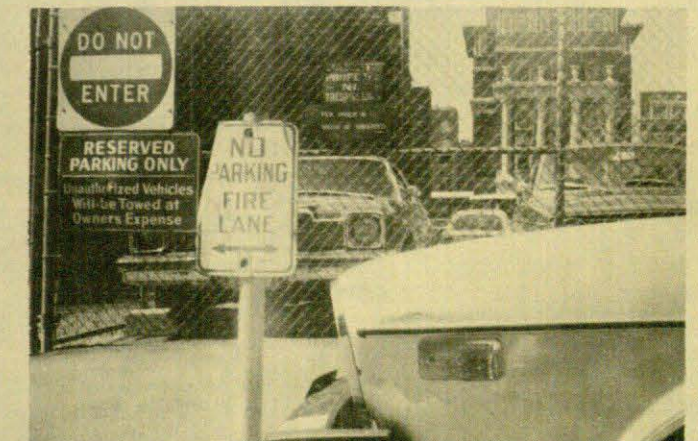
Take one is published for the employees of University Hospital every second Thursday by the Office of Informational Services, Boston University Medical Center. For copy submission or information, please contact Owen J. McNamara, publications manager, P-300, x5606.

ARCHIVES

May 4, 1978

take one

a publication for the people of University Hospital



CANDIDATE FOR THE HOOK--A Volkswagen Rabbit parked illegally on Stoughton street near the Talbot building illustrates the need for the new Medical Center parking and towing policy. See story inside.

need to know

ILLEGALLY PARKED CARS TO BE TOWED BEGINNING MAY 15 UNDER NEW MEDICAL CENTER POLICY

A new BUMC parking and towing policy that aims to make life easier for those who obey parking regulations will become effective Monday, May 15.

Cars blocking all Medical Center exits, entrances, fire lanes, impeding the BUMC shuttle bus in any way, parked without authorization in restricted areas, parking overnight, or parked in an incorrect area of a lot will be towed, according to the new policy.

The Medical Center has contracted with the Able Tow Company, Inc., to clear the complex of illegally parked cars, according to Paul Marcin, business and parking manager for Plant Services.

Marcin says that a BU campus police officer or staff security officer who sees an illegally parked car may issue a ticket and complete a tow report. An attempt will be made to contact the operator before towing is started. To ensure that the owner may be located, every car parked in a Medical Center lot should carry a BUMC decal or display the name of the vehicle's operator and his or her destination within the Medical Center.

The officer reporting the car will contact the parking manager, or a representative, who will notify the Boston Police Department and complete arrangements with the towing company. The parking manager will be present when the car is towed. The condition of the car will be noted by both the towing company and the parking manager. The vehicle will then be removed to a reserved section of the C lot and secured with a chain and padlock.

Owners of impounded cars should contact the parking manager from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays to reclaim their cars. They will be required to pay towing rates established by the Department of Public Utilities. The fees are: \$12.85 for towing; \$5 if a forcible entry must be made; \$5 if the linkage must be disconnected; and a \$1 per day storage fee. Only cash payment will be accepted. If the driver of the wayward car intercepts the

vehicle while towing is in process, half the applicable towing fees must be paid, or towing will continue.

"We've tried to prevent cars from parking in areas that block necessary traffic or take space from certain areas by putting up signs and giving out warnings, but no one has taken them seriously," said Marcin. "Maybe now they will."

Additional information on the parking policy will be distributed next week in a hospital memorandum and is available from the parking manager's office, T-214, ext. 5459.

STEDMAN REPORTS 'TIE LINE' TROUBLES ARE BEING WORKED ON, URGES PHONE USERS TO REPORT PROBLEMS QUICKLY

Security and Communications Director Edwin Stedman, noting that the Medical Center's Centrex telephone system is just two years old, says the system has shown its value "but could be much better and much more cost-effective with more efficient use of the 'tie lines' we have available."

Stedman has received complaints of difficulties with the tie lines that connect BUMC with the Charles River Campus, Boston City Hospital and the Solomon Carter Fuller Mental Health Center. The tie lines are operated when the dialer uses three-digit access codes for the three connected facilities, together with the desired extension number. Some of the problems reported include static, failure to function properly, conversation cut-off and the inability to contact the desired number.

"The telephone company has been making a random inspection of the tie lines, trying to find the problems our users say exist. However, unless the telephone company knows when the trouble occurred, they are helpless," said Stedman. "To use the system effectively, the telephone company must be made aware of the problem when it happens, not a day or weeks later. The problems must be reported immediately so they can be traced." To report a problem, simply call x6100.

If trouble does occur with tie lines the caller often goes outside the system and dials direct, which results in double billing. According to Stedman, "The total per-month phone bill averages about \$75,000, with message units making up about \$20,000 of that bill. Message units

occur when users go outside the system to call a 'tie-in' facility."

Some deficiencies in the current Centrex directory also cause problems. A revised edition is in the works and should be completed before summer. Only essential listings will be included. BUMC departments are asked to submit final listing requests by tomorrow, May 5.

CYNTHIA CARTER

people

BUMC'S RADIOLOGY TECHNOLOGY STUDENTS SHOW THEIR STUFF AGAIN, WIN 'COLLEGE BOWL'

Students from the Medical Center's School of Radiologic Technology showed last week that their 1977 victory in the statewide radiology "college bowl" was no fluke: The five-student BUMC team again won the annual competition handily.

The School is actually made up of two separate but coordinated programs, one at UH and one at BCH. The students receive their practical experience at the two hospitals, and come together for classroom sessions. They receive their academic training at Northeastern University.

Students from x-ray technology programs around the state annually compete in an educational contest dubbed "the college bowl," and held during the annual convention of the Massachusetts Society of Radiologic Technologists.

Last year was the first time the Medical Center School had ever opted to send a team to the competition, and the students brought home the top honors. This year, according to Dennis D. Keefe, R.T., director of education for the School, the team was again cast as a "dark horse" entry -- and again proved victorious.

Keefe told Take One that victory in the statewide competition brings considerable esteem to the School. "We owe a sincere debt of gratitude to our students for maintaining the School of Radiologic Technology at the forefront of all x-ray teaching programs in the state."

Members of the team are Charles Borzilleri and James Haeffner of UH and Patricia Hennelly, Diane Melancon and Natalie Woodson of BCH.



SPRING PLANTING--Neil Baldner of the Building and Grounds Department moves shrubs to be planted on East Newton street in front of B Lot.

benefits Q & A

Q. I have just filed my 1977 income tax return and I really need some sort of a tax shelter for 1978. I have been considering an IRA but I'm not sure if I am eligible. Am I?

A. You are eligible to join an IRA (Individual Retirement Account) if you are not a participant in either of the Hospital's pension plans. Both plans are contributory, so if you are unsure, check your next paycheck stub. Your retirement contribution is clearly labeled as such.

Regardless of whether you are a member of one of the Hospital's retirement plans, you may want to consider joining a tax-deferred annuity arrangement. You should have received a brochure in your last paycheck describing the Union Mutual Plan. If you are interested in joining it, or would like more information, please contact me at x5381.

BY MAUREEN LOVEJOY