



# The Sundial

Vol. 3 No. 2

DAVIS HOSPITAL, INC.

April, 1982

## THREE NURSING SERVICE STAFF MEMBERS PLAN RETIREMENT

Nursing Administration honored three staff members at a Retirement Reception on Thursday, April 15, 1982, in the hospital dining room.

Each honoree was presented a plaque commemorating her years of service by her Head Nurse. A peppermint carnation corsage was pinned to the shoulder of each retiree by Mrs. Martha Hauser, Assistant Administrator for Nursing. Fresh cut flowers from the hospital gardens were used as a centerpiece for the serving table. Co-workers of the honored employees served punch, party cookies, nuts and mints to the guests attending the occasion.

The employees honored were:



Mrs. Gertha Wolfe, LPN, receives plaque from Head Nurse, Erma Chambers.

Mrs. Gertha P. Wolfe, LPN, retired March 5, 1982. During her employment, she kept abreast of changes in nursing and would always go the extra mile to help in emergency staffing situations at the hospital. Her work areas were 2A, E-III, and E-II.

She will be remembered by her co-workers as a nurse who was well liked, cooperative, prompt, very neat and professional. Her patients will remember her as a pleasant, warm person who gave excellent nursing care.

Her versatility, coupled with her boundless enthusiasm for nursing, has been an inspiration to everyone in the nursing department at Davis Hospital.



Mrs. Virginia Dagenhart, Ward Clerk, receives plaque from Head Nurse, Gayle Chapman.

Mrs. Virginia J. Dagenhart, Ward Clerk on 2C, retired March 22, 1982. She began work at Davis Hospital on November 15, 1971, and throughout her employment was assigned to 2C and 2B nursing units.

Virginia was sited for her dependability and dedication to the hospital. She was always willing to come to work without hesitation when called according to her head nurse, Gayle Chapman. Her pleasing personality and smile will be missed by everyone.

Mrs. Dagenhart resides at the Plaza Apartments. We hope she will enjoy her retirement to the fullest.

### New Hospital Site Approved By County Commissioners

Rezoning of the proposed site of the new \$23 million Davis Hospital was unanimously approved by the Iredell County Commissioners on Monday evening, April 5, 1982.

The property is located on the Old Mocksville Road at Beaver Road, near the interchange of US 64 and Interstate 40. The 45-acre tract will be rezoned from highway business and agricultural—residential to residential office use.

We are now involved in the "certificate of need" process for approval to build a replacement hospital at this location.



Mrs. Elva Tilley, Nursing Assistant, receives plaque from Head Nurse, Gloria Martin.

Mrs. Elva J. Tilley, Nursing Assistant on 2C, will be retiring on May 1, 1982. She has been employed by Davis Hospital since January 19, 1970.

Patients and co-workers will miss Mrs. Tilley's cheerfulness and good sense of humor. Her caring attitude and willingness to help co-workers, patients and their families has been a valuable asset to nursing.

We extend our very best wishes to her throughout the coming years.

### National Hospital Week

National Hospital Week will be observed by hospitals all across the country May 9-15, 1982. This week's theme "You've Got A Friend In The Hospital," is a reminder of the purpose of hospitals. Today's complex hospital industry still has a simple basic mission—to care, offer support and help and be there when needed.

Hospitals are becoming better friends to communities through new services, improved techniques, advancing technology, and growing skills of health care personnel. Hospital progress, especially in the prevention of illness and disease, continually improves health and reduces the need for curative measures. More

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REBECCA SWICEGOOD, R.N.

## Swicegood Receives Certification

Rebecca Swicegood (Pettit), RN, Head Nurse in CCU, has received notification of her certification as a CCRN. Attainment of CCRN certification is recognized as professional competence in critical care nursing. Certification is earned by passing a comprehensive written examination. Several areas of critical care nursing are tested, including cardiovascular, pulmonary, renal/metabolic, the nervous system, and psycho-social. The CCRN examination was given February 3, 1982 in Durham.

Rebecca received an Associate of Applied Science Degree in Nursing in August, 1977, from Western Piedmont Community College, Morganton, N. C. She came to us from Iredell Memorial Hospital, where she had been employed in the critical care area for over four years.

She is married to Al Pettit. They have one son, Jeff, age eleven.

## National Medical Laboratory Week Observed

National Medical Laboratory Week was observed April 11-17, 1982. Davis Hospital Laboratory Staff members each received a yellow carnation in recognition of their dedication to the Medical Laboratory Profession. Members of the staff were invited to a reception given by the Iredell Memorial Hospital Laboratory on April 13, 1982. Personnel attending that event included: Joan Godfrey, Anna Shaw, Elizabeth Rumble, Maxine Middleworth, Diane Hope, and Wilhelmina Ferguson.

## Cancer Awareness

The American Cancer Society is a national voluntary health agency fighting cancer through research, education, and service and rehabilitation for the cancer patient. It is an organization of people helping people.

Through the Society's Public Education Program, emphasis is given to what people can do to help protect themselves against cancer. Adult programs focus on sites of the body where most cancer strikes such as lung, breast, colon-rectum, uterus, oral, and skin. At the same time, high priority is placed on the cure or prevention of the disease.

Davis Hospital has become involved with local industrial colorectal screening clinics as part of the Cancer Society's education program for the public.

Jan Alexander, RN, Employee Health Nurse, recently completed a colorectal clinic for 335 employees at Flexnit Company.

Fortunately, colorectal cancer can be detected at an early, even asymptomatic, stage with the simple and inexpensive use of quaiac impregnated slides. The individual prepares stool samples at home on the quaiac slide after following a special meat-free, high residue diet for 48 hours to increase accuracy of the stool analysis. Vitamin C and aspirin should also be avoided during the 48 hour period as they interfere with the test accuracy. The slides are returned to the nurse conducting the clinic and developed with a special solution. Blood in the feces can be readily detected through the use of this test.

Almost two out of three patients can be saved if the disease is found early and treated promptly. When the colorectal cancer is treated early, it is regard-



Flexnit Employees (L to R) Mark Kiser, Carole Beach, Virginia Starnes, with Jan Alexander, RN, Employee Health Nurse, Davis Hospital.

## National Hospital (Continued)

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than ever, healthful hospital services and programs are reaching out to communities through health education and screening programs.

A strong relationship between hospitals and the communities they serve is needed for the benefit of both. The goal of better health is a shared pursuit. Ways for private individuals to promote health through hospitals include such individual friendly gestures as making monetary contributions to medical education and research, volunteering personal services, and donating blood. We can be our own best friends by taking care of our own health and by learning the right ways to use hospitals to stay well.

Hospitals are good friends to people throughout their lives and are always there to grapple with many unforeseen problems. Let's all work together to keep this a healthy relationship.

ed as highly curable. Even when the cancer is advanced, prospects may still be good if proper surgery is done.

The real hope for the future is in earlier detection. Cancer specialists all over the world are improving diagnostic techniques, learning more about the nature of "early" or "minimal" cancer, and developing more effective combinations of treatments.

On April 30, 1982, a Colorectal Cancer Awareness and Screening Clinic will be conducted for all Davis Hospital employees. Dr. David Kogut and Dr. Frank Wolfsheimer, Gastroenterologists, will present a lecture concerning the facts on colorectal cancer at which time slides will be distributed to employees for screening.

The month of April has been designated as "Cancer Awareness Month." Know cancer's seven warnings signals:

- 1) Change in bowel or bladder habits.
- 2) A sore that does not heal.
- 3) Unusual bleeding or discharge.
- 4) Thickening or lump in breast or elsewhere.
- 5) Indigestion or difficulty in swallowing.
- 6) Obvious change in wart or mole.
- 7) Nagging cough or hoarseness.

If you have a warning signal, see your doctor.

# CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

## JUST PEANUT BUTTER AND CRACKERS

I assisted the leader of a traveling group to Egypt, Rome, Greece, and the Holy Land several years back.

A lady aboard told the story of a man who went on a ship's cruise for two weeks. He didn't realize that the meals were taken care of by the money he paid for the trip. At meal times, he would go to his room and eat peanut butter and crackers to save money.

You can imagine his consternation when he learned that the sumptuous meals they served on such trips had been paid for already by the fee he paid for the trip. He could have been enjoying that excellent food all along.

Many of us tend to think of the joy of eternal life as being something that we won't experience in this life on earth. You and I have heard so much about eternal life, forgiveness, during the several weeks surrounding the recent Easter season.

But too often we think in terms of "that life" which IS TO COME, as an

experience that we may have after we move on to heaven. We're like the man with peanut butter and crackers. The JOY IS HERE NOW, but we don't enjoy it because we don't realize that eternal life is NOW—FOREVER!

A minister friend tells how he answers when people say, "IF I DIE." He counters with, "you can leave off the IF!" We can leave the "If I go to heaven off when we become followers of the ONE WHO WAS resurrected from the dead, that heaven is now and forever for us!

DAVID E. WILKINSON  
*Chaplain*

## Doctor's Day

In observance of Doctor's Day, the Iredell County Medical Auxiliary served refreshments to doctors at Lowrance, Davis and Iredell Memorial Hospitals on Tuesday, March 30, 1982.

This special event is held annually to recognize the many physicians who are concerned with the well-being of the people in our community and nation.

Mrs. Bob Stevenson, President-elect of the Medical Auxiliary, served graciously as the hostess for the festivities at Davis Hospital. Each physician was presented a red carnation as a symbol of recognition on "their day." Coffee and danish were served throughout the morning.

Miss Lillie Norket provided flowers from her garden for the celebration, while Mrs. Sadie Marlin, RN, added her touch by arranging a beautiful spring floral arrangement.



Mrs. Bob Stevenson, 2nd from left, presents boutonniere to Dr. J. M. Robertson of Harmony while Doctors A. S. Harberts (left) and Durham Lewis (right) smile with approval.

## HCA Update

Hospital Corporation of America now operates 357 hospitals with 50,298 beds in 41 states and 4 foreign countries.

171 U.S.—owned general hospitals with 27,393 beds.

145 U.S.—managed/consulting general hospitals with 18,061 beds.

25 U.S.—owned psychiatric hospitals with 2,841 beds.

1 U.S.—managed psychiatric hospital with 117 beds.

13 foreign—owned hospitals with 1,536 beds.

2 foreign—managed hospitals with 350 beds.

In addition, HCA International has consulting agreements with four hospitals: two in India, one in Saudi Arabia and one in the Virgin Islands.



Group of Davis Hospital employees attired in Davis Hospital tee shirts get psyched up for "WALKAMERICA" teamwalk. (L to R) Cindy Cothran, Becky Swicegood Pettit, Gayle Chapman, Judy Patterson, Jean Carrigan, Jean Pierson (Deeble), and Juanita Gray.

## Thank You

Cub Scout Den "1," Pack # 363, from New Salem Methodist Church, made tiny Easter baskets for all our patients as a favor for Easter. The troupe leaders are: Laura Galliher and Patsy Bennett.

The South Iredell High School Leo Club also made Easter favors for the children on our Pediatric Unit.

## World's Fair Begins May 1

The first day of May marks the beginning of the 1982 World's Fair in Knoxville, Tennessee. "A Tour of the World" is just one of the themes from this year's World's Fair. Countries participating in this international event include Saudi Arabia, Mexico, Australia, Japan, Great Britain, West Germany, France, and Italy who will come to Knoxville to exchange ideas and share cultural experiences with all the world.

Since 1851 World's Fairs and Expositions have provided a vehicle for some of the most innovative ideas in history. The Statue of Liberty was unveiled in the Paris Exposition in 1878, the "miracle" of electricity in Buffalo in 1901, the ice cream cone for the 1904 World's Fair in St. Louis and television in New York City in 1938. This year's Fair will offer something of equal excitement.

Plan to see the HCA Healthcare Pyramid a 29 foot tall, 1600 square foot structure which will be the focal point of the World Health Pavilion.

From May 1, to October 31, 1982 the World's Fair will offer an historic, once-in-a-lifetime experience for people of all ages.

Call Personnel today and make reservations for you and your family to attend on July 24, 1982, by way of chartered bus.



Helen Thompson, 2nd from left, instructs class in aerobics.

## LET'S GET PHYSICAL!

Twelve eager female employees of Davis Hospital began aerobics on Tuesday, March 30, 1982, at 5:00 p.m. in the large School of Nursing classroom. Instructed by Helen Thompson, the enthusiasm and fun progressed as the first hour class soon came to a close.

Aerobic exercise is done to the rhythm of music. Through this vigorous exercise program one benefits from the improvement of cardiovascular functioning, toning of muscles, and increasing of metabolism to burn calories.

Sponsored by Employee Health, the aerobic class will meet each Tuesday and Thursday afternoon from 5:00-6:00 p.m. through May 6, 1982.

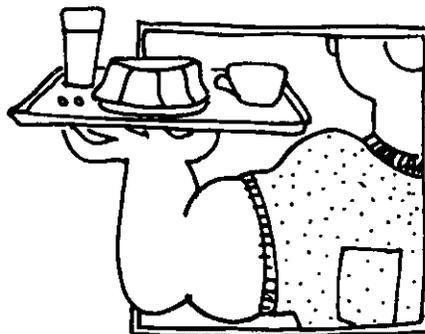
Look for the "fittest" ladies around the hospital in six weeks and you'll know who took advantage of the "physical" aerobic classes!

## People In The News ---

DEBBIE COMER, Nuclear Medicine, received blue ribbons in local and district art competition sponsored by the N. C. Federation of Women's Clubs. Debbie's winning entry was an acrylic painting of a beach scene.

FRED MITCHELL and KEN OVERCASH will be appearing in the Stage-front Theatre production of "Kismet," a musical set in ancient Bagdad. The play will be presented as a dinner theatre in the newly remodeled Spainhour's Building on May 14, 15, 16, 21, and 22, 1982.

RAY HARVEL, Food Service Manager, attended the Annual Hospital Food Service Administrators Workshop held March 31 - April 2 at Emerald Isle, N. C. The Workshop is sponsored by N. C. Chapter of the American Society for Hospital Food Service Administrators.



You've Got A Friend In The Hospital  
National Hospital Week May 9-15, '82

### The Sundial

Published bimonthly for the personnel  
and friends of Davis Hospital, Inc.

## On The Sports Scene

### MEN'S SOFTBALL

March 1st marked the opening of a new season for the Davis Hospital Men's Softball Team. Our team this year has several additions to a strong returning nucleus from last year's team. The new recruits will add extra strength to a team which went 13-7 in their inaugural season. The '82 edition should improve on both the record and the 4th place finish in the competitive Industrial League. The only thing we need this year is plenty of fan support. The regular season opens the end of April and a schedule of the games will be posted on the bulletin board. Come out and enjoy some good softball and support the 1982 Davis Hospital Men's Team!

A roster of team members is as follows:

Bill Thompson, Terry Ijames, Archie Guy, Joel Inman, Garry Weddington, Jerry Morton, Benny Bustle, Brent Bustle, Bob Farmer—Coach, Steve Blaine, Fred Mitchell, Wayne Turner, Frank Wolfsheimer, and Larry Gruber.

### LADIES' 1982 SOFTBALL

The ladies playing softball for Davis Hospital have been diligently practicing evening and Saturdays since March 11. Playing on the team for the second year are: Gwen Weddington, Mildred Summers, Renee Morton, and Debbie Comer.

This year, our team is being coached by Mr. John Bennett, assisted by Mr. Barnette Westmoreland, both employed by Thonet Industries, Inc.

The team is working hard in hopes of replacing last year's second place trophy with a first place trophy this year.

A schedule of games and playing times will be posted throughout the season. We invite you to come to the games and support your team.

## "WALKAMERICA"

Davis Hospital, along with other area businesses and industries, participated in the local "WALKAMERICA" teamwalk for the March of Dimes on Saturday, March 20, 1982. Those participating on this year's team were: Steve Clark, Judy Patterson, Cindy Cothran, Sue Plyler, Jeannie Alexander, Ken Overcash, Maxine Middlesworth, Becky Swicgood Pettit, Wanda Ward, Jessie Tomas, Vashion Chambers, Shirley Chambers, Brad Lippard, Gayle Chapman, Bobby Spencer, Juanita Gray, Craig Gray, Sara Foster, Teresa Rummage, Pearl Davis, Barbara Lipe, Pat Warren, Matthew Alexander, Julie Alexander, Freddie Blackmon, Jean Pierson (Deeble), Ernestine Sherrill.