Groundbreaking planned June 22

Toni Baker

Ground will be broken June 22 for a half-million-dollar expansion project to double the square footage of outpatient space of the Medical College of Georgia Department of Psychiatry and Health Behavior.

The two-floor, 8,500-square-foot addition will be attached to the department's offices on Pope Avenue.

J.H. Cleveland Construction Company of Evans, Ga., has been awarded the contract to build the facility. Construction is expected to take about one year.

The addition is mandatory to meet current and future needs of the department, according to Dr. Joel Kahan, director of outpatient clinic services for the department.

The department has approximately 120 faculty members who are either full-time or clinical adjunct faculty and 48 residents.

In the area of teaching, the addition will provide eight sites where residents can interview patients on videotape for later review with an MCG faculty member.

"In order to teach, we have to have the opportunity to observe the trainee in the course of doing his work," said Dr. Diane Solurah, associate professor of psychiatry and health behavior. These rooms allow faculty to observe without intruding on the interview.

Also, residents can review the videotapes to see what they did correctly or incorrectly, she said.

Another major plus of the addition is added clinic space for the large number of subspecialty services the Department of Psychiatry and Health Behavior will offer when the new building is open, Dr. Kahan said.

Subspecialty offerings include child and adolescent psychiatry, forensic psychiatry, and addiction services. The department also plans to expand its geriatric psychiatry program.

The risk of developing diabetes is about one in 10 during a lifetime, Dr. Chadband said. Certain risk factors, such as a family history of diabetes, increase that risk.

Treatment includes education about important lifestyle changes, watching for early signs of complications and treating complications early.

The CDCC makes available educational classes that direct the caller to the proper resources. The CDCC is a concept of the CDCC number is (404) 721-6100.

"Diabetes affects every organ of the body," said Dr. Robert B. Chadband, a specialist in endocrinology and metabolism and director of the CDCC.

"Diabetics are on every ward of the hospital. Because diabetes affects everything in the course of a diabetic's life, problems which can develop may require the advice of specialists in many areas of medicine," Dr. Chadband said.

The CDCC makes available endocrinologists with expertise in diabetes and coordinates the availability of medical specialists in other areas who will consult in any complication of diabetes. For example, specialists can include ophthalmologists, nephrologists, infectious disease physicians, neurologists and orthopedists.

Also on the CDCC team are four clinical nurse specialists, two nutritionists and an administrative secretary.

"Patients or doctors can call our number and access a system that offers all this," Dr. Chadband said.

The CDCC number is (404) 721-6100.

"The number provides access to a resource concept," Dr. Stachura said.

"Whether your health care is covered by private insurance, veterans' benefits or public assistance, we will direct the caller to the proper resources. The CDCC is a concept of good diabetes care. The CDCC coordinates available resources to make it accessible to all diabetics."
Notables

V.B. MAHESH PhD, D.Phil, Endocrinology, received $88,172 from National Institutes of Health/National Institute of Child Health and Human Development for "Effect of Progesteron on Gonadotropin Secrecion.

R.A. AKHTAR PhD, Cell and Molecular Biology, received $25,134 from National Institutes of Health/National Institute of Child Health and Human Development for "Characterization of the Mouse Egg Plasma Membrane."


"Identification and Quantification of Ray-Crystallin with Monoclonal Antibody at the Fourth US-Japan Cooperative Cataract Research Group, Honolulu, Hawaii.

"Hemoglobins in a Diabetic Patient with Sickle Cell Anemia," JACQUELINE CONLEY, Pharm Dept, Research 1st from Work Study Student.


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300 Help Wanted
HOUSE OF LLOYD now hiring! New super party plan – sell toys, gifts, candles, Christmas items. No collecting, delivering, or investments, must be 21 or older, with car. 733-1618, 730-5442, 555-9179, or 736-9636.

320 Wanted to Buy
TWO-THREE BEDROOM home, Hill area, 30-50 years old, good condition, flat lot, central heat and air, quiet road, brick and owner-sold preferred. 733-6399.

405 Appliances for Sale
KENMORE WASHER and dryer, Sears, $250; Polonex humidifier, $10. 733-2646.

430 Furniture for Sale
MOVING SALE! King size bed, chest, mirror, and dresser, $350 or best offer. 722-4121.

450 Pets & Animals
ENGLISH BULLDOG PUPPIES, AKC, 4 males, 6 females, 6 weeks old, champion bloodline. 863-5904.

465 TVs, VCRs for Sale
MOVING SALE -- Sharp VCR, 6 months old, $110; Zenith TV, 19 inch, $50; GE black and white TV, 12 inch, $25. 733-2646.

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1982 TRANS AM, red, air, AM/FM cassette, power windows, excellent condition, $5,000. 868-7313 after 6 p.m.

700 Apartments for Rent
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300<br>RESIDENTIAL OFFICE SPACE, available immediately, 1,500 sq.ft., 2315 Central Avenue. THREE MONTHS FREE RENT! Contact Danny Williams, 736-1491.

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Centrally located between hospitals, ready now, flexible lease. Most reasonable! Lily, 738-0936 or 736-9076.

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10 MINUTES FROM MCG, in North Augusta, 2 bedrooms, 1 bath, study, dining room, living room, modern kitchen, central heat and air, stove, refrigerator, washer and dryer, fireplace, wall to wall carpeting, drapes and curtains, nicely decorated, plenty of storage space! $325 per month lease plus security deposit. Contact Shelley at Ext. 3553 or 279-8688.

760 Rooms for Rent
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ROOMMATE WANTED to share 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo, with pool, all appliances, Westside area, $240 month includes all utilities. 722-7791 or 738-0727.

490 Miscellaneous for Sale
MOVING SALE = Hamilton Beach blender, $2; Magnavox integrated music system with glass cabinet, $150; Sears Craftsman mower, 20 inch, with bagger, $75; Craftsman hedge trimmer, 18 inch, 410, clock radio, $6, 733-2646.

MOVING SALE = Brother sewing machine, $75; new Snizzle curling iron, $2; Super-Pro hair dryer, $2; Bentley Super-8 camera and projector, $50; fan, $5, 733-2646.

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Newsbriefs

Book requests
Fall quarter book requests must be in the bookstore six weeks before the quarter starts to assure prompt delivery.

Bookstore closed
The bookstore will be closed June 28-30 for inventory. It will reopen with regular hours, 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., July 1.

Procedure changed
The Division of Public Safety announces that the procedure for reporting accidents and injuries has changed.
Employees no longer are required to call public safety to report injuries; therefore, items 28 on the supervisor's report of Accident/Injury (form MC110) may be omitted. Information needed by the safety bureau for follow-up investigation will normally be obtained from this form when filed with personnel.

Supervisors should call public safety (ext. 2911) only in cases of serious injury, when immediate follow-up is deemed to be in the best interest of MCG.

Also, the MCG student accident/injury reporting procedure is altered.

The MCG Department of Dermatology is seeking volunteers with jock itch and/or ringworm in good health age 16 to 65 to participate in a test on a new drug to treat jock itch and ringworm.

Volunteers agencies are needed to serve as host families for international undergraduate and graduate students who will arrive after July 1.
Volunteers wanted
Volunteers age 21 to 70 with high blood cholesterol are wanted for studies of new medications and diets that lower cholesterol. Studies vary from 8 months to 3 years and are free. Call ext. 4861. Diabetics are ineligible.

For more information or to volunteer, call Jean Dirksen, 738-2220, or Barbara Holzman, 968-5418.

Punched cards deadline
The Office of Research Computing and Statistics will replace the VAX 11/750 with a MicroVAX6000 during June.

The office won’t be able to read punched cards after the conversion. Cards to be read into a computer file must be brought to the office (CI-111) before June 30.

Regulations enforced
The Public Safety Division will strictly enforce parking regulations on Harper Street. Tickets will be issued for any violations.

Volunteers sought
The MCG community is invited to a reception honoring Dr. Raymond C. Bard, dean of the School of Allied Health Services who is retiring after 21 years at MCG, June 30 from 3-4:30 p.m. in the Student Center.

New discounts
MCG employees are offered two new discounts: 10 percent off cleaning from Silverstine Cleaners and 25 percent off glasses and contacts from Lenox Optical. Present MCG identification badge to receive the discounts.

Other employee discounts include:

YMCA — 20 percent off and no joining fee;
Health Center — $25 a month and no joining fee;
Sally Beauty Supply — 19 percent off (card available in CC-135);
Opryland — 20-off coupons (available in CC-135);
Disney World (membership card available in CC-135); and
Emilio’s Italian Restaurant — 10 percent off.

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model
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$219

For more information or to
Volunteer, call Jean Dirksen, 738-2220,
or Barbara Holzman, 968-5418.

Beeper deadline
The deadline for the July 4 "Beeper" is June 27 at 5 p.m. Please inform personnel of any address changes to ensure delivery of "Beeper" to your home.

Wanted: Volunteers
Volunteers with asthma who take Theophylline regularly are needed for a drug study. Participants will be paid.

Contact Lisa Wood, ext. 3531.

Low Prices on Good Cars!

87 VW Convertible

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The patient representatives are named

Karin Calloway

Four patient representatives have joined the staff of the Medical College of Georgia Hospital and Clinics. The patient representative program is an offshoot of the Patient Relations Department, established in 1986. The department also oversees the account representative program, which assists patients with billing questions.

The patient representatives will be led by Keturah M. Sanders, director of the Patient Relations Department. She earned a bachelor's degree in English and psychology from Allen University in Columbia, S.C. Kimberly Hamilton, who earned a bachelor's degree in communication arts from Georgia Southern College in Statesboro, joined MCG as an account representative in the Patient Relations Department. Before joining MCG, she was a patient representative with University Hospital.

Danette S.T. Kong is a magna cum laude graduate of Oklahoma Baptist University in Shawnee, Okla., and earned master of divinity and master of church music degrees from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky. She joined MCG as an account representative.

She also has worked as a crisis counselor with the Sexual Abuse Treatment Center at Kapiolani Women's and Children's Medical Center in Honolulu. Claudianett Palmer, a graduate of Kentucky State University, also was an MCG account representative before joining the patient representative team. Ms. Palmer holds a bachelor's degree in sociology. She has worked as a para-professional for Weed Trainable Mentally Retarded Center, a program specialist for Ikenga Hospital in Lagos, Nigeria, and as a social worker and relocation officer for Welfare Social Services in New York.

Ramell A. Thompkins graduated from Augusta College with a bachelor's degree in English. She joined MCG in 1986 as an account representative. She also has worked as a physician's staff assistant and as a patient/physician liaison at the Augusta Laboratory for Hormone Assays.

Passing the torch

Public safety employees participated in a recent torch run to kick off the Special Olympics, which helps handicapped children fulfill their potentials.

BEEPER

Division of Institutional Relations
Medical College of Georgia, Augusta, Georgia 30912
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News and photos are provided by the Division of Institutional Relations. Direct correspondence about news to MCG Beep, A105, (404) 721-4411.

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Page 2 — Wednesday, June 22, 1988, Medical College of Georgia
Senior dental students honored during ceremony

Senior dental students received 42 awards at the annual Senior Awards Night June 1 at the Medical College of Georgia School of Dentistry.

Awards went to: Trent Conner, Academy of Dental Materials Award; Marc Circle and Alan Rosenberg, Academy of Dentistry for the Handicapped Award; Mike Mulkey, Academy of General Dentistry Award; Terry Elrod, Albyn A. Smith Award; Doug Depew, Alpha Omega Award; Terry Elrod, American Academy of Oral Medicine Award; and Mac Worley, American Academy of Operative Dentistry Award.

Also: Marsha Jordan, American Academy of Oral Pathology Award; Kathy Powers, Carter Edge, Gail Thomas, Doug Depew, Chris Bakke and Bill Trout, Oral Pathology Achievement Awards; Gail Thomas, American Academy of Periodontology Award; Gary Jones, Quintessence Award for Periodontics; Jim Davis, American Association of Endodontists Award; Kathy Powers, American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Award; and Mac Worley, American Dental Society of Anesthesiology Award.

Also: Doug Depew, American Association of Orthodontists Award; Lori Miller, American Association of Woman Dentists Award; Gary Jones, American College of Dentists Professionalism Award; John Faison, American Equilibria Society Senior Award; Marsha Jordan and Jan Ellington, American Society of Dentistry for Children Awards; David Bradberry, Georgia Society of Dentistry for Children Award; David Carter, American Student Dental Association Award; Doug Depew, Anatomic Sciences Award and the Quintessence Award for Research; and Jim Farmer, Dentally Fixed Prosthetics Award.

Also: Jim Davis, Dentally Removable Prosthetics Award; Mac Worley, Goldstein Award in Aesthetic Dentistry; Marsha Jordan, International College of Dentists Award; Joe Dromsky, Japahiku Association Award; Jim Davis, Quintessence Restorative Dentistry Award; Sid Galloway, Southeastern Academy of Prostodontics Award; Pat McCoy, Student National Dental Association Award; Gary Jones Teledyne Hanau Prosthodontic Award; and Buddy Cawley, Special Recognition.

Nursing school awards 8 students

Eight students were honored at the eighth annual Medical College of Georgia School of Nursing honors convocation June 4.

Brenda McNutt of Berryville, Va., won a $100 dean's award for best essay by a senior. Essays were judged by a faculty panel.

Beryl MacEwing, a senior from Augusta, won a $100 clinical practice award for patient care, donated by Dean Emerita E. Louise Grant. She also won the parent-child nursing award for outstanding family-centered nursing care.

Merrie McClure of Athens won a $50 community nursing clinical practice award.

W. Daniel Roberts of Buena Vista won the Howard L. Demi Award for excellence in psychosocial nursing.

James Bivell Jr. of North Augusta won a $100 Sigma Theta Tau Graduate Award, presented by the Beta Omicron Chapter of the national nursing honor society. The honor is given to a graduate student whose scholarly paper is judged best in competition.

Janet Lee of Augusta won a $100 alumni award for best thesis. Her thesis was titled "Selected Correlates of Academic Success in Baccalaureate Nursing."

Pamela Hunley of Augusta won the Lelia P. Ault Clinical Excellence in Graduate Adult Nursing award.

Doctor made mark right off the bat

Christine Deriso

(Editors' note: This is the sixth of a monthly series highlighting contributors to the Medical College of Georgia's 160 years of excellence.)

Virgil Preston Sydenstricker was barely out of medical school when he began making his mark in medicine.

Dr. Sydenstricker, a 1915 graduate of Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, was still an intern when he and his colleagues developed a system of blood transfusion which eliminated the need for direct transfusion. Their work laid the foundation for modern blood banking and blood transfusions.

He was hired as an instructor for the Medical College of Georgia (then the medical department of the University of Georgia) in 1920 and was promoted to professor two years later.

He soon became internationally known for his work in hematology and nutrition. Dr. Sydenstricker was one of the first to research sickle cell anemia. In the 1930s, he studied nutrition and vitamin deficiency diseases and demonstrated that niacin acid prevents and cures pellagra.

He served from 1940 to 1944 on the U.S. Army, which was engaged in World War II.
Children's Miracle Network
Telethon near $270,000 mark

Christine Deriso

A weekend filled with little sleep, hard work and telephones ringing off the hook may not sound particularly appealing, but those involved with the Children's Miracle Network Telethon wouldn't have had it any other way. Local coordinators, hosts, volunteers and guests were all smiles throughout the event, especially as the pledges soared. Their efforts resulted in a $269,997 donation to the Medical College of Georgia Children's Medical Center. Last year's total was $201,000.

The telethon aired live from Disneyland in Anaheim, Calif., Walt Disney World in Orlando, Fla., and Tokyo Disneyland from 9 p.m. June 4 to 6 p.m. June 5 on WAGT (Channel 26) in Augusta. Local segments were hosted by Lee Sheridan, vice president and manager of the station, Marion White, fashion director of J.B. White, and Don MacNeil, a disk jockey for Augusta radio station WZNY (Sunny 105.)

About 200 volunteers from the Augusta area contributed to the telethon's local success, according to telethon coordinator Rebecca Rabun. "We want to say thanks to everybody that helped with the telethon in any way," she said. "They worked hard and everything went very smoothly."

Time flew during the telethon, according to volunteers who said the excitement kept everyone on their toes. One highlight occurred around 4 p.m. June 5: a timpani roll, the signal that a new total was about to be displayed, resounded as a figure of more than $202,000 flashed on the sign. Last year's record had been broken. The studio erupted in applause.

Touching moments abounded: MCG poster child Lilly Lamm presented a $25 check on behalf of her grandparents. Anthony Williams, a 4-year-old cared for at MCG after accidentally shooting himself, charmed viewers with bashful boyishness from Disneyland. The story of his journey from near death to normalcy was chronicled in a video produced at MCG and aired twice during the telethon.
Groundbreaking is planned cont’d from p. 1

psychiatry, substance abuse, neuro-psychiatry movement disorders, geriatrics, eating disorders and affective disorders.

Additional clinical space will permit these subspecialty clinics to be held regularly, an asset to teaching and patient care, Dr. Kahan said.

"During your training, you should be exposed to a large number of disorders," he said. This augments the residents' opportunities to see these problems and illnesses and to observe the experts care for them.

"This also is better for the patient; a building that provides all the subspecialities of psychiatry," he said. Patients can be screened by general psychiatry in the same building where they will see the subspecialist to whom they are referred.

Also, new construction will provide psychiatry and health behavior residents with offices which will double as treatment rooms.

"To someone who is not acquainted with psychiatric education, these things probably sound like luxuries. But they really are important to teach effectively," said Dr. Leigh C. Bishop, assistant professor of psychiatry and health behavior at MCG.

About 30 doctors, including faculty and residents, are assigned to outpatient services in psychiatry and health behavior. At present, offices are available for about two-thirds of these clinicians.

Vigorous recruitment is under way to augment the faculty numbers. Also, July 1, the number of residents grows from 48 to 55.

The building also will house four large family-therapy rooms to allow expansion of group therapy sessions to deal with issues such as rape, suicide and death and dying.

Two playrooms for child psychiatry therapy evaluation also will be included in the expansion.

One component of the addition is a room where doctors can use the electronic activity of the brain to produce a map that aids in diagnosing and treating a variety of disorders.

"The cutting edge of psychiatry anywhere has got to have the laboratory technology available to do its diagnostic work; and the imaging technology must be available," said Dr. Edwin R. Wallace IV, acting chairman of the Department of Psychiatry and Health Behavior at MCG.

"For many years, until about 1955, psychiatric information gathering was pretty much limited to the interview or what you could get through psychological testing," Dr. Wallace said. About the only treatments were talking therapies (psychotherapies) and electro-convulsive treatment.

In the 1950s, drugs were marketed that helped treatment considerably, such as antidepressants, anti-schizophrenic agents and tranquilizers, he said. But information gathering still was limited to interviewing and testing.

"Now we are beginning to gather clinically relevant data through laboratory procedures and through brain imaging methods," Dr. Wallace said.

"Much of psychiatry (today) in the diagnostic arena makes use of instruments formerly used only by neurologists and radiologists," he said.

"The new testing mechanisms do not replace older approaches such as interviewing patients and psychological testing, it augments those efforts," Dr. Wallace said.

A final feature of the expanded outpatient facility is a biofeedback room where patients can learn to control their body's responses, such as increased blood pressures and heart rates, by their own thoughts.

"Essentially it is a way of making people aware of the physiological responses to their own thought patterns, how what they think affects the body and therefore how to control those responses," Dr. Bishop said.

Diabetes center opens doors cont’d from p. 1

which is treated by lifestyle more than medication," Dr. Chadband said. "A large number of diabetics could be taken off their medication if they complied with the appropriate lifestyle and diet."

"Diabetes really manage their own disease, but you have to give them the tools to do that," Dr. Chadband said.

"You have to give them instruction and you have to give them motivation."

A diabetic needs thousands of questions answered: What shoes should he wear? How does he read food labels in a grocery store? Why does he have to lose weight? Why must he live on a special diet?

Traditionally when a diabetic is diagnosed, he receives basic instructions about his new lifestyle and how to get his glucose stabilized. But there is no way to put a lifetime of diabetes into a few days, Dr. Slachura said.

Such education is expensive when provided in a hospital. The CDCC provides ongoing education in a variety of settings, he said.

"We want to be the resource. We have put the pieces together in a structured program that has our administration's support," Dr. Chadband said.

"During your training, you should be exposed to a large number of disorders," he said. This augments the residents' opportunities to see these problems and illnesses and to observe the experts care for them.

"This also is better for the patient; a building that provides all the subspecialties of psychiatry," he said. Patients can be screened by general psychiatry in the same building where they will see the subspecialist to whom they are referred.

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"Essentially it is a way of making people aware of the physiological responses to their own thought patterns, how what they think affects the body and therefore how to control those responses," Dr. Bishop said.

4 Allied Health faculty attend Denmark meeting

Four Medical College of Georgia faculty members in the School of Allied Health Sciences spoke at the First World Congress of Allied Health Professionals in Eilinor, Denmark June 14-17.

This congress marked the first time allied health professionals from throughout the United States met with their counterparts from around the world.

Participants discussed the training and utilization of allied health personnel, recent developments in health and education, future technology of health care, human resource needs and health policy.

Participating MCG faculty were Dr. Biagio Verciella, associate dean of the School of Allied Health Sciences; Dr. Julia Crowley, professor of occupational therapy; Dr. Virginia Allen, professor of medical technology; and Reva Curry, assistant professor of radiologic technologies.

The conference was sponsored by the American Society of Allied Health Professionals.

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Medical College of Georgia, Wednesday, June 22, 1988 — Page 5
Aquatics program slated this summer

Karin Galloway

An arthritis aquatics program will be offered this summer by the Medical College of Georgia Hospital and Clinics Occupational Therapy Department in cooperation with the Richmond County Recreation Department.

The program, designed to increase range of motion and strength, will be held at the King’s Park swimming pool, a handicapped-accessible swimming pool on Heath Street, from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. every Friday from June 17 through August 19. A lifeguard will be on duty during each session. The cost for the program is $10 per session. The program is directed by Ann Lorenz, an MCG Hospital and Clinics staff therapist who conducted an arthritis aquatics program at the Baptist Medical Center in Columbia, S.C. Ms. Lorenz earned a bachelor’s degree in occupational therapy from the Medical University of South Carolina in Charleston.

Ms. Lorenz will evaluate each participant and establish an aquatic session suited to his needs. Once in the water, she will direct them through various movements. “We’ll be doing activities that incorporate a range of motion targeting each joint in the body,” she said.

“Depending on the individual, we usually see improvements in their range of motion, strength and endurance, as well as a drop in pain and morning stiffness.”

Participants in the program will be evaluated regularly to adjust their routine as needed. A formal evaluation at the end of the summer will determine progress.

Those interested in participating must have a written prescription from a physician. For more information and registration, contact Ms. Lorenz at ext. 2481.

Casting call

Sgt. A.C. Winston puts a cast on Shannon Seversen during a demonstration at Fort Gordon to MCG physician assistants.

English visitors

Six nurses from Brighton, England, visited the Medical College of Georgia School of Nursing recently and were treated to a reception in the school lounge. The nurses hosted an MCG visit to Brighton last year.
Dietetics department lauds honor roll group

Seventeen Medical College of Georgia Department of Dietetics program were honored with certificates May 11 for being on the honor roll nine months or more during the year beginning April 1, 1987.

The department's honor roll, implemented in 1985, honors employees monthly who haven't been late for work, haven't missed work because of illness and have performed all assigned duties.

The employees, their titles and the number of months they were on the honor roll are:

- Betty Bonner, food service worker 2, 12 months. (She has made the honor roll for 36 consecutive months.)
- Mattie Williams, dietitian assistant 2, 11 months.
- Georgia M. Bonner, food service worker 2, 10 months.
- Mary Browning, food service worker 1, 10 months.
- Earl Thomas, cook 1, 10 months.
- Hattie L. Abney, food service worker 2, nine months.
- Audrey Clark, food service worker 1, nine months.
- Wyman Hampton, food service worker 2, nine months.
- Geraldine Jemburk, food service worker 1, nine months.
- Sturgis Steiner, chief cook, nine months.
- Carrie Stewart, dietitian assistant 2, nine months.
- Sheryl Ann Thommpkins, food service worker 1, nine months.
- Richard Crawford, cook 2, 10 months.
- Elnera Dixon, dietitian assistant 2, 10 months.
- Leola T. Jenkins, food service worker 1, 10 months.
- Earl Thomas, cook 1, 10 months.
- Hattie L. Abney, food service worker 2, nine months.
- Audrey Clark, food service worker 1, nine months.
- Wyman Hampton, food service worker 2, nine months.
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Employee awards ceremony

William E. Jones, Carita Woolen, Bruce C. Johnson, Lucille Madison, Ernestine Baker, Emily McGahee, Dana Blackwelder, Geneva Sammons, William Hamilton and Kathy Wade each won $500 in May as winners of the MCG Employee Excellence Awards. The program, implemented by Dr. Judson C. Hickey, awards employees who have exceeded expectations on the job and offered significant contributions to their departments.

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Year-end ceremonies

Each of MCG's five schools celebrated a year-end ceremony early this month. The ceremonies (clockwise, beginning at top right) included Allied Health Sciences, the School of Nursing pinning ceremony, the School of Medicine hooding ceremony, the School of Graduate Studies hooding ceremony and the School of Dentistry hooding ceremony.

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Camp Rainbow set to begin this week

Toni Baker

Camp Rainbow, a summer camp for pediatric cancer patients at the Medical College of Georgia Hospital and Clinics, will be held June 20–25 at Kinard Conference Center in Leesville, S.C. Approximately 75 children and 35 staff members are expected to attend for a week of swimming, boating, horseback riding and other activities. "It's an opportunity for these kids to do a lot of things that maybe they would not have the opportunity to do," said Frances Friedman, camp director and play therapist with the section of pediatric hematology/oncology at MCG.

"We watch them at camp and realize that some of them may never have been in a pool before, never ridden a horse and there is the possibility that they may not be back next year," Miss Friedman said. "It makes you realize you are going to find the money somewhere."

The camp is supported by several businesses and organizations. The camp is free to the children. A sibling of each patient also may attend. A doctor and nurse are on the premises 24 hours a day.

Some special features of camp include a visit to Riverbanks Zoo in Columbia, S.C., and rides in a hot air balloon.

Parents are invited June 25 for a Camp Rainbow Family brunch.

Nursing students begin 10-week extern program

Medical College of Georgia School of Nursing students began a ten-week externship program June 14 that offers something for everybody involved.

The students, three rising seniors working as patient care assistants in the MCG Hospital's pediatric unit, are getting experience, school credit and a paycheck. The hospital is getting their help plus a recruitment opportunity.

"We're focusing on the retention and recruitment of students, and to try to make the school-to-work transition easier for them," said Nancy Tigert. She and Nancy Thomas, nurse educators with the hospital's Department of Nursing Staff Development, are the program coordinators. Wanita Owen, who has a joint appointment with the nursing school and hospital, is the course director.

The program began last summer and was very successful, the coordinators said.

"Students gave it good evaluations," Ms. Thomas said. "And we've worked for the past nine months to improve it and polish some of the rough spots."

Changes this year include decreased classroom hours and the addition of role socialization seminars to help the students adapt to the work world. A parent-teaching project also has been added in which the students educate parents about their children's care.

The students' week consists of 32 hours of work and eight hours of class.

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