



The *Great* Canadian Catholic Hospital History Project

Documenting the legacy and contribution of the
Congregations of Religious Women in Canada,
their mission in health care, and the founding and operation of Catholic hospitals.



Projet de la *Grande* Histoire des hôpitaux catholiques au Canada

Retracer l'héritage et la contribution des
congrégations de religieuses au Canada,
leur mission en matière de soins de santé ainsi que la fondation et l'exploitation des hôpitaux catholiques.

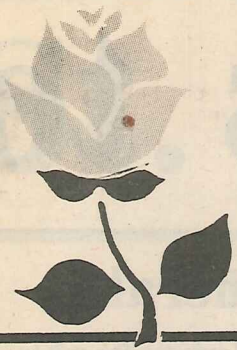
St. Mary's Hospital Camrose, Alberta

Official Opening of New Hospital
The Camrose Booster Newspaper Supplement
June 20, 1989

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THE CAMROSE BOOSTER

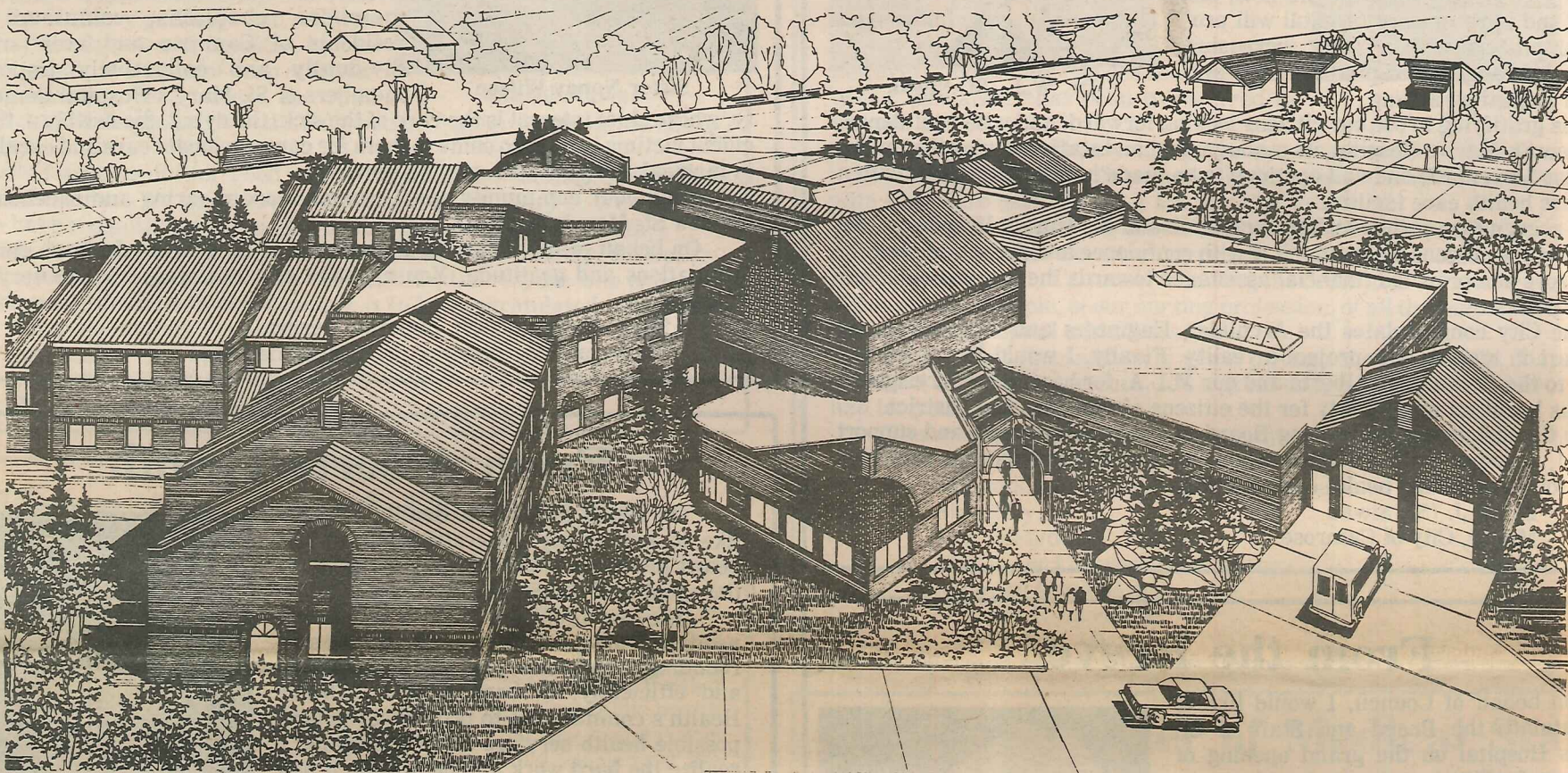


Special St. Mary's Hospital Edition

16 Pages

June 20, 1989

St. Mary's Hospital Official Opening



Come out Friday, June 23, at 2:00 p.m.

The public is invited to attend these events at the new hospital:

*** Opening ceremonies * Facility tour * Refreshments**

A long-awaited event, the official opening of the new St. Mary's Hospital, will take place on Friday, June 23, beginning at two o'clock. The affair will attract a number of dignitaries which include Sister Nancy Wilson, General Superior, Sisters of Providence of St. Vincent de Paul, Kingston, Ontario; Arnold Malone, Member of Parliament, Crowfoot Constituency; Dr. W. J. Siwak, Mayor, City of Camrose; Robert Prestage, Reeve, County of Camrose; Rod McDermid, vice-chairman, Board of the Alberta Hospital Association; Dr. Alan Smith, Chief of Medical Staff, St. Mary's Hospital; Bernard Wood, of Wood, Gardener, O'Neill, O'Neill Architects; Bruce Blair of Ellis Don Management Services, general contractor; the Most Reverend Joseph MacNeil, J.C.D., D.D., Archbishop of Edmonton; and the Honour-

able Ken Rostad, Alberta Attorney General and M.L.A., Camrose Constituency.

Following the opening ceremony, the public will be invited to tour the new health care complex and enjoy refreshments.

The new hospital, the construction of which started in August 1987, will house six nursing units and nine hospital departments. The nursing units include surgery, medicine, obstetrics/nursery, surgical suite, psychiatry and rehabilitation. The departments include diagnostic imaging, dietetics, environmental services, laboratory, materials management, pastoral care, patient information services, personnel, pharmacy, plant and equipment services, physiotherapy and respiratory.

The new 110,000 square foot complex has 117 beds plus four day surgery beds

and 12 bassinets. The old 74,000 square foot hospital was rated 117 beds plus 12 bassinets but the actual capacity was limited to 110 beds as not all the space was usable for patient care. While the new hospital does not significantly increase the bed capacity, it does provide more space for patient care, diagnostic imaging, laboratory, x-ray, psychiatry, pharmacy and nursing areas.

Advanced technology is evident in the new equipment for the hospital, which will provide advantages for the patient as well as for the medical, nursing and other staff. Modern technology will significantly improve the ventilation and quality of air, compared to the older facility.

The decor of the new hospital is soft and serene. Gentle, pastel colors throughout, and indirect lighting in

many areas, create an atmosphere of peace and well-being. Virtually all of the patient areas have excellent views of the outdoor blue sky and sunshine; some have exceptionally beautiful views of the verdant Jubilee Park.

The new hospital project will cost approximately \$23 million of which the Alberta Government is providing \$21.5 million, the City of Camrose \$504,000, the County of Camrose \$196,000, and the Sisters of Providence \$100,000. The balance of \$1.5 million is being raised by the community at large. To date, approximately \$1.13 million has been raised by donations from community clubs, organizations and individuals, leaving a balance to come of approximately \$370,000.

(The new hospital is described more fully in short descriptions of each department. Please keep reading.)

How it all began

As early as 1980, rumblings began to indicate that St. Mary's Hospital was again crowded. The condition of the 1924 wing was such that no part of it could be used for patient care, nor, in the view of advisers, could it be feasibly renovated to comply with today's standards. After lengthy consideration, and many discussions with governments at both municipal and provincial levels, it was decided to demolish the old hospital (the 1924, 1949 and 1969 wings) and erect a completely new hospital. Construction was officially started on August 4, 1987, with the Honourable Ken Rostad, then Solicitor General and M.L.A., Camrose Constituency, turning the first sod. The all-but-finished new facility will be ready for the official opening on Friday, June 23, 1989.

Demolition of the older St. Mary's Hospital complex will commence later this summer. The site will then be used for parking and landscaping of the whole area will be undertaken.

Congratulations to

From the Mayor

On behalf of Council and the citizens of Camrose, it is my privilege and pleasure to bring greetings to the Sisters of Providence of St. Vincent de Paul and the Governing Board of St. Mary's Hospital on this auspicious occasion of the opening of the new hospital.

As the hospital swings open its doors to the public for the first time, this happy occasion marks a milestone in the history of St. Mary's Hospital. Not only will the new hospital continue to play an integral role in our community and surrounding area by providing economic spinoffs, the new, expanded and ultra-modern hospital will provide our citizens with an ever increasing quality and range of hospital services and care, in a spiritual setting.

It is gratifying to see our citizens looking forward, and with confidence, to the new St. Mary's Hospital, its management and staff, knowing that every effort has been made and will continue to be made in providing them with a first class health care facility.

In recognition of the sterling contribution of St. Mary's Hospital to the welfare of our citizens since 1924, it is with confidence and pride that the City of Camrose has provided financial assistance towards the realization of our new hospital.

The City congratulates the Architect, Engineers and Contractors for their part in making this project a reality. Finally, I would like to extend thanks to the Province of Alberta and our M.L.A. for having the foresight to fund this beautiful new facility for the citizens of Camrose and District.

To the Sisters, the Governing Board, the medical, nursing and support staffs, I, together with all Camrosians, extend congratulations and best wishes for a rewarding health care mission.

Dr. W.J. (Si) Siwak
Mayor, City of Camrose



Dr. W.J. (Si) Siwak

From the Superior General



Sister Nancy Wilson

It is a privilege and honour for me to send greetings to the many friends of St. Mary's Hospital, Camrose, on this memorable occasion of the official opening of the new St. Mary's Hospital.

During my many visits to Camrose and to St. Mary's Hospital in particular, I have felt a strong sense of community. The word community connotes people living together, being responsible, participating, having common ties and interests, working together, sharing and caring for one another. I believe that the administration, sisters, doctors, nurses, support staff, board members, chaplains, volunteers and residents of Camrose and area are individually and collectively important members of St. Mary's Hospital Community,

whose chief interest is the care of the sick, the dying, the newborn, the accident victims — all who come to them for compassionate care and excellence in medical, surgical and nursing services.

Take your community spirit, compassionate caring and excellence to the new St. Mary's Hospital.

On behalf of the Sisters of Providence of St. Vincent de Paul, our congratulations and gratitude. You all have our love, prayers and very best wishes.

Sister Nancy Wilson, Superior General
Sisters of Providence of St. Vincent de Paul

From Alberta Health

On behalf of Alberta Health, I would like to extend my congratulations to the board members, staff and city officials on the opening of the St. Mary's Hospital.

The new facility will allow the health needs of residents both in Camrose and surrounding areas to be met more effectively and efficiently, in keeping with Alberta Health's commitment to providing the best possible health services to all Albertans. I realize the hard work and dedication it has taken to initiate, construct and complete this project. The efforts of all those involved are greatly appreciated.

Again, please accept my sincere congratulations and best wishes on this joyful occasion.

Nancy J. Betkowski
Minister, Alberta Health



Nancy J. Betkowski

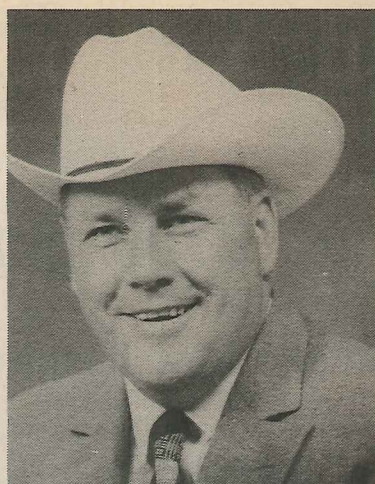
From the Reeve

On behalf of Council, I would like to congratulate the Board and Staff of St. Mary's Hospital on the grand opening of their new facility.

The residents of the County of Camrose have long depended upon the services offered by St. Mary's, and sincere appreciation is expressed for the many years of dedicated service from the staff to Camrose and District. I'm sure that the new facility will more than meet the expectations of our residents in the future. County Council is proud to have been able to financially assist and support this new facility.

As with the passing of time the new replaces the old, I would invite you to join with the County and residents to salute the old structure and its memories, and to welcome this fine new hospital to our community.

R.A. (Bob) Prestage, Reeve
County of Camrose



Bob Prestage

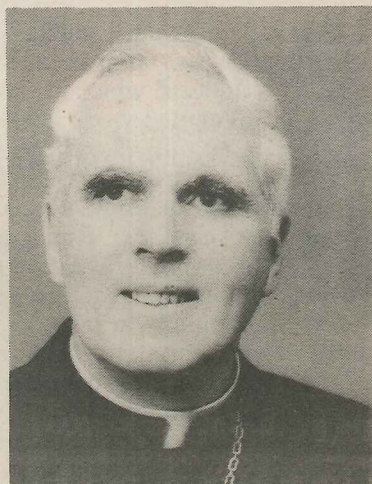
From the Archbishop

Dear Friends:

St. Mary's Hospital has a long and distinguished record of service to the people of Camrose and area. The Sisters of Providence of St. Vincent de Paul from Kingston have made an invaluable contribution to this region. We owe these health care pioneers in Camrose a great debt of gratitude. They are not only pioneers but are also a modern and visionary community. They have given the leadership and taken the responsibility of providing this new hospital complex. St. Mary's is deeply rooted in the past, alive to modern needs and leading people to new concepts of health care.

To the Sisters, the Board, the staff and to all those associated with St. Mary's, I extend my sincerest congratulations and thanks. May their unselfish service be blessed in abundant fashion by the Lord.

J.N. MacNeil
Archbishop of Edmonton



J.N. MacNeil

From the A.H.A.



Don Macgregor

The highest level of health care, delivered with compassion, has been the commitment St. Mary's Hospital has given Camrose for 65 years. This service to the people of Camrose region will certainly continue when the doors of the new facility officially swing open on June 23, 1989.

I commend the Sisters of Providence for managing St. Mary's and caring for people in need, with a genuine sense of charity. The Sisters have played a central role at St. Mary's Hospital since 1922, when planning for a regional hospital began.

On a provincial level, St. Mary's Hospital has been a strong participant in activities of the Alberta Hospital Association. Throughout the past six decades, many dedicated people at St. Mary's, including

Sister Rose Beckar, have worked to ensure that our health care system in Alberta is among the best in the world.

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Alberta Hospital Association, I offer congratulations to all who have assisted in the construction of this fine, new facility: the St. Mary's Hospital Board of Directors, the hospital management, health care staff, community volunteers, the hospital auxiliary, and, of course, the Sisters of Providence.

The people of Camrose have a hospital to be proud of, and an excellent health care staff at St. Mary's to provide superior health care service into the next century.

Don Macgregor, President
Alberta Hospitals Association

St. Mary's Hospital

From the M.P.

Good health is a sleeping beauty. When we have it, it serves as a silent license to all other opportunities; in its absence it becomes all consuming.

Of our individual obligations to oneself, none is more important than the maintenance of health.

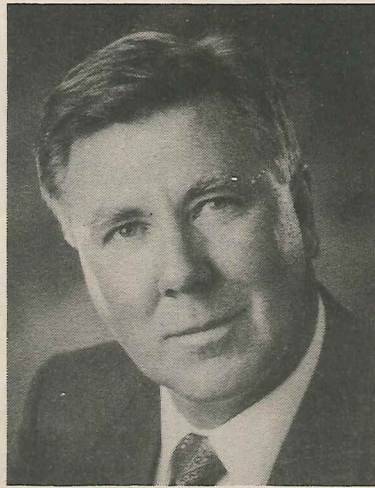
For sixty-five years, St. Mary's Hospital has been the principal provider of our health care needs in Camrose and area. It is, and has been a cherished institution. St. Mary's is rich in history; her future is filled with promise.

Everyone in the community has been affected by St. Mary's. Either you or your friends have been there. A hospital, by the nature of its task, is a place of deep and contradicting emotion. It is where the first joyous cries of life begin and it is the hallowed setting for tearful farewells to loved ones.

Assured opportunity for good health is one of the characteristics that makes us Canadian. We have been well served at St. Mary's. We are fortunate to have a quality institution devoted to caring and good health.

At this wonderful milestone of the provision of a new facility, our opportunities for secured good health have been enriched. Everyone who played a role in this magnificent new development is to be congratulated. The heart and soul of our community lives on.

Sincerely,
Arnold Malone, M.P.
Crowfoot Constituency



Arnold Malone

From the M.L.A.

It seems like yesterday but months have passed since construction commenced on OUR hospital.

Of course, prior to that construction date, there were innumerable months, even years, of intense planning and accomplishment. That is history but a history shaped by hundreds of people, some of whom have moved on to other ventures and others who remain at St. Mary's.

There has been a tradition of caring since St. Mary's was first constructed in 1924. There has been activity by a number of concerned patrons about the demise of the old hospital structure.

I cannot argue with their aims, however, I hope they can see that the spirit of our forefathers has been transferred to the new structure.

I am certain that as you tour the new hospital you will see that it is a "user-friendly" facility. This was by design; the planning was a collaboration with the future user groups. I am proud of the result.

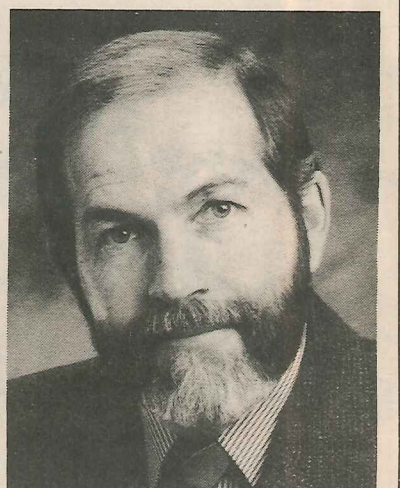
It is not a cliché to say that it really comes down to people. You need the facilities but you have to have the people. We are very fortunate, in Alberta, more particularly in Camrose, in having the dedication and professional skill of our medical people, of our nursing profession, of all the support people, and the people in hospital administration.

I know that thousands will come through the doors of St. Mary's and receive a high quality of care. It's a great day, for the Sisters of Providence and for your government.

Please attend the opening ceremony, please visit St. Mary's Hospital and share the enthusiasm!

We shall continue to enjoy good health care!

Sincerely,
Ken Rostad, Q.C.
M.L.A. for Camrose Constituency
Attorney General and
Minister Responsible
for Native Affairs



Ken Rostad

From the Board Chairman



Victor Laskosky

Saint Mary's Hospital is an historic landmark, a cornerstone, a tradition in Camrose. It had its humble beginning in 1924 and has progressed with time, with additions in 1948 and 1967. This year in June, Camrose and District will be blessed with a new St. Mary's Hospital to serve the health needs of the people. This new hospital was built by a team effort. To supplement the funding by the Government of Alberta, generous contributions of monies were received from the Sisters of Providence, the City of Camrose, the County of Camrose, the businesses and corporations of Camrose, the Service Clubs of Camrose and District, and the general public. Such tremendous support deserves the highest accolades and congratulations.

We will now have one of the finest hospitals in Alberta. The citizens of Camrose and District should be justly proud of their united effort. This is the new Saint Mary's Hospital which they helped to build, a grand facility to enhance our community and serve the people's needs.

May Saint Mary's Hospital continue to be a landmark tradition in the City of Camrose for many years to come.

CONGRATULATIONS!
Victor Laskosky, Chairman
St. Mary's Hospital Board of Governors

From the Chief of Medical Staff



Dr. A.G. Smith

As Chief of Staff, on behalf of the physicians who will work in the splendid new St. Mary's Hospital, I would like to express our pleasure and enthusiasm for the spacious new building and excellent equipment which will allow us to implement several new programs to serve the citizens of Camrose and district. We would particularly thank those tireless members of the hospital governing board and administration who have spent many hundreds of hours over the 10-year period of planning and construction required to develop such a modern facility.

Dr. A.G. Smith,
M.D., F.R.C.S.(c), F.A.C.S.
Chief of Medical Staff
St. Mary's Hospital

From the Exec. Director



Sister Sheila Langton

With the official opening on June 23, 1989, and the subsequent move to the new facility, we will begin another chapter in the illustrious history of quality health care at St. Mary's Hospital.

Serving with compassion those entrusted to our care, knowing that God will provide all that we need is the mission which motivated the pioneer Sisters to begin their ministry to the sick at St. Mary's in 1924. This spirit has been transmitted through word and example over the years to all staff who came to work in the hospital.

We are grateful for the generous monetary response from individuals, businesses, churches and organizations within the Camrose area during our recent Fund Raising Campaign.

And so with grateful hearts, true to the spirit of our pioneers, we courageously embark on the next chapter of the history of St. Mary's.

Sister Sheila Langton
Executive Director,
St. Mary's Hospital

From the Auxiliary



Anne Heggen

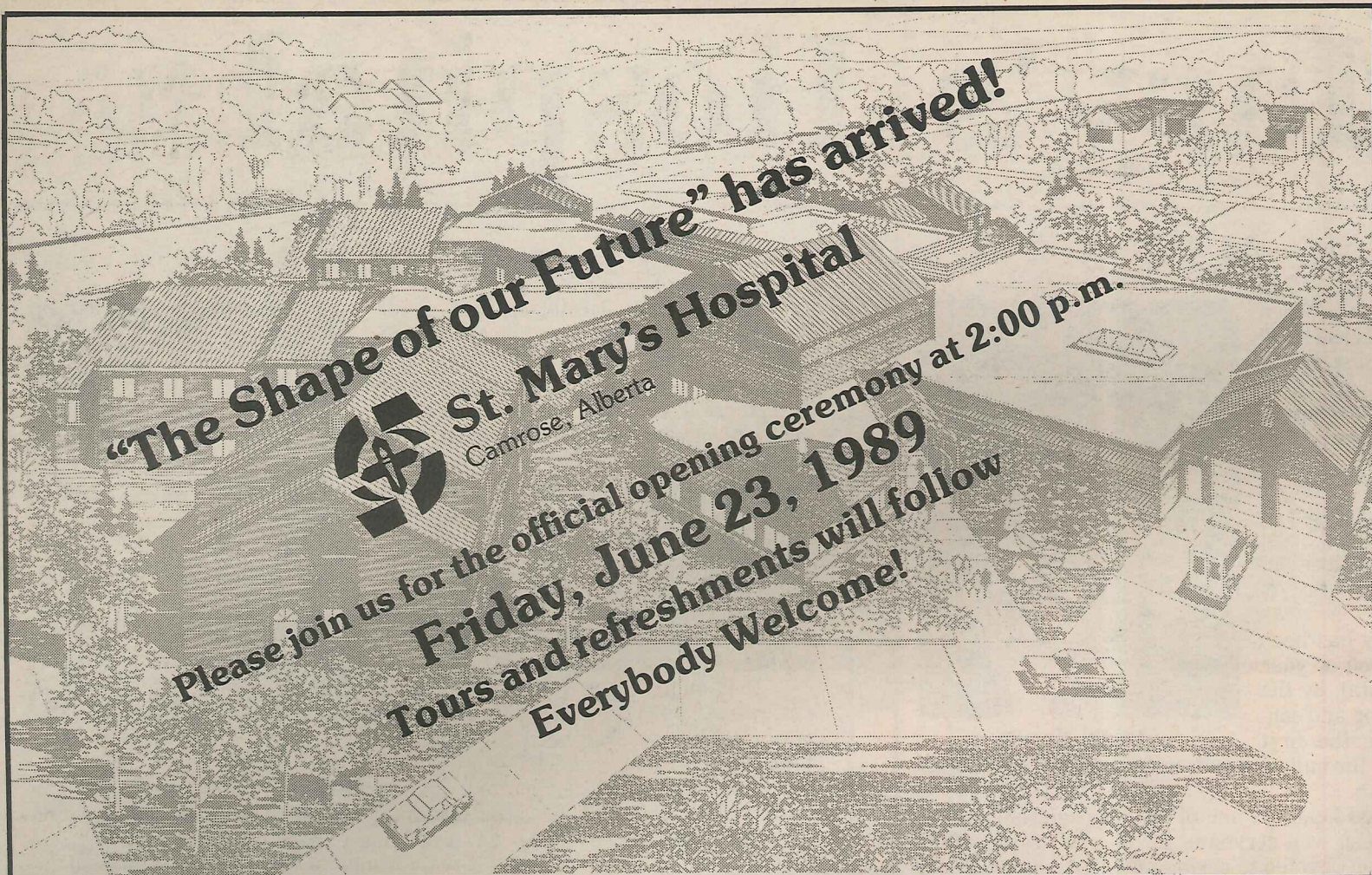
In 1924 when the Sisters of Providence opened their hospital in Camrose, a Hospital Auxiliary Guild was formed. This was reorganized in 1948. The present St. Mary's Hospital Auxiliary came into being in 1961.

Since 1924, the members of the auxiliaries have appreciated the Sisters of Providence for their dedicated work. With faith and love of humanity and the saving grace of humour, all who have entered their doors have received help in time of need for body and spirit.

The ladies of St. Mary's Hospital Auxiliary wish to congratulate the Sisters of Providence on the opening of the new hospital, which increased the bed capacity and is able to extend services.

We have been and are happy to continue to assist in some small way to bring comfort to the patients.

Anne Heggen, President
St. Mary's Hospital Auxiliary



Administration

A team concept

St. Mary's Hospital administrative staff believes in the team concept of management.

"We make decisions in a collaborative way," explained Executive Director, Sister Sheila Langton. "We have found this approach to be both productive and creative. It fosters a feeling of ownership and a concern for the good of the hospital among the managers."

Sister Langton is responsible to the Governing Board under the chairmanship of Victor Laskosky. Departments which report directly to her include: Pharmacy, Laboratory, Respiratory, Physiotherapy and Diagnostic Imaging.

Other members of the administrative team who assist Sister Langton are Assistant Executive Director Norm Hanoski, Director of Administrative Services Mike Shea, and Director of Patient Care Services Phyllis Lychak.

Hanoski's responsibilities include the hospital project, Plant and Equipment Services, Materials Management and Environmental Services, while Shea oversees Finance, Personnel, Patient Information Services and Diabetics. Lychak is responsible for all areas of nursing, including Medicine, Surgery, Psychiatry, Rehabilitation, Surgical Suite and Obstetrics/Nursery. Pastoral Care, Discharge Planning and Education are other departments which report to her.

Chief of Medical Staff Dr. A.G. Smith reports to the Governing Board at all monthly meetings.

The Hospital Auxiliary operates a health care gift shop and attends to the comfort needs of patients.

Eight handle finance

St. Mary's Finance Department has a wide range of responsibility.

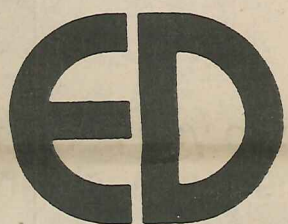
The six-member department looks after all financial aspects of the hospital, including payroll, accounts receivable and payable, budgeting and reporting. In addition, it coordinates the hospital's computer programs.

According to Finance Director Mike Shea, the hospital has an annual payroll of approximately \$8 million for more than 300 staff, most of which reside in the Camrose trading area.

"A hospital payroll is one of the most complex to administer," said Shea, who explained St. Mary's has four different collective bargaining agreements in place, and provides a full range of benefits to employees.

The provincial government provides annual grants which cover most of the

(Continued on page 5)



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We would like to thank all of the sub-trades for their co-operation in the completion of the St. Mary's Hospital project.

We also want to acknowledge the fine support received from the architects and consultants in helping bring this project to reality.

But most importantly, we want to extend our heartfelt congratulations to St. Mary's Hospital, the administration, directors, doctors and staff on the occasion of the Grand Opening of their exciting and impressive new facility.

Meet the hospital's Board of Governors



Members of St. Mary's Hospital Governing Board are: (left to right, front) Sister Sheila Langton, Malcolm Lyseng, Victor Laskosky, Doug Tien, Sister Muriel Gallagher, (back) Bill Andressen, Rene Cote, Sister Bernadine Bokenfohr, Sister Sheila Brady, Ron Blatz, Norton Metcalfe and Casey Kehoe.

Introducing the administrators



The administrative team at St. Mary's Hospital includes: (left to right) Director of Administrative Services, Mike Shea, Director of Patient Care Services, Phyllis Lychak; Executive Director, Sister Sheila Langton, and Assistant Executive Director, Norm Hanoski.

Finances (Continued from page 4)

hospital's operating expenses. Workers' Compensation and non-Alberta residents are some of the other sources of revenue.

Shea noted the hospital uses an IBM System 36 com-

puter and is actively working towards a more integrated type

of system. An Admission Discharge Transfer System in the new hospital will keep patient information on file to help

simplify the admittance procedure.

St. Mary's is one of 19 test sites in Alberta for a Management Information System, a new method of hospital accounting.

A tidbit from St. Mary's history

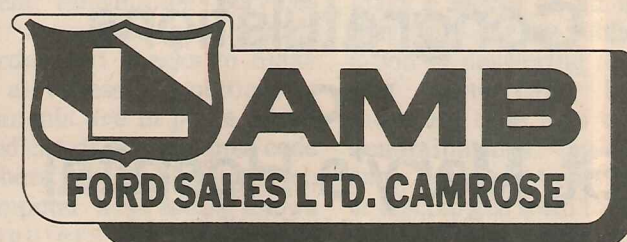
St. Mary's Hospital was a training school for nurses from 1924 to 1935. The first graduates in 1927 were Flossie Kellington, who received a

medal for having achieved the highest marks, Kathleen Bosley, Amelia Gronberg, Edna Lyseng and Marie Gronberg. The nursing school

was closed in 1935 because 50 beds did not meet the standards required at that time. It has never been re-opened.

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best to you in the
future!**

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at...*



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from the management and
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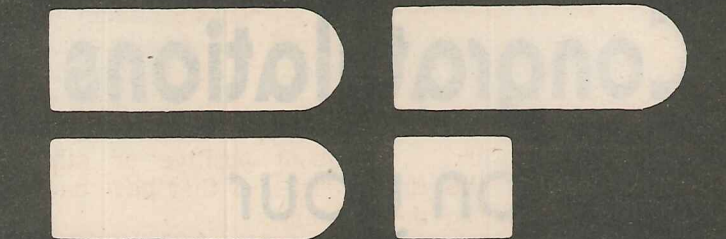
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The Doctors of St. Mary's



Doctors who have privileges at St. Mary's Hospital are: (front, left to right) Dr. J.R. Weir, Dr. P.D. Maguire (Radiologist), Dr. A.D. Peterson, Dr. T.J. Burns, Dr. A.G. Smith, Dr. T.G. Co, (back) Dr. J.H. Young, Dr. L.E. Rinholm, Dr. W.J. Siwak, Dr. W.R. Reikie, Dr. G.P. Tober, Dr. T.M. Corrigan, Dr. D.J. Murray, Dr. V.M. Hignett and Dr. K.T. MacQuarrie. Missing from the photo are: Dr. S.A. Smith, Dr. Gail Andrew-Gibson, Dr. E.D. Hilderman, and Dr. D.J. Cook.

Surgery Unit "challenging" work

St. Mary's Surgery Unit provides nursing care for patients during both pre- and post-operative phases of their illnesses. The 25 bed unit is staffed by a Unit Supervisor, Marilyn LaBarge, R.N., and a staff of R.N.s, R.N.A.s and Unit Secretaries.

LaBarge estimates approximately half of the unit's patients have orthopedic-related conditions that require surgical intervention. The remainder of patients on the unit will require general surgery, excluding specialties such as neuro-surgery and cardiovascular surgery. Abortions are not performed at St. Mary's.

According to LaBarge, the majority of nursing care on Surgery involves orthopedics because of the availability of

Dr. Rod Reikie as an orthopedic surgeon.

"It's challenging and often very heavy work, but our nursing staff receive a great deal of satisfaction when they assist patients through major surgery or major trauma injuries, to recover sufficiently in order to return home to their families," LaBarge stated. She added that close team work of her staff is of vital importance in attaining this end.

In the new hospital, the number of beds on the Surgery Unit is actually fewer than before. Changes which have affected the reduced number of beds include:

- transfer of the four day surgery beds to the Emergency Department;
- the establishment of a Pediatric Unit in conjunction

with Medical Rehabilitation; - moving gynecological patients to the combined Obstetrics/Gynecological Unit.

"With the expanded number of medical beds in the new hospital, and the moving of pediatric, gynecological and day surgery patients to other areas of the facility, more beds should be available for surgery patients," said LaBarge.

LaBarge also stated the unit is looking toward shorter lengths of stay by patients due to a close working relationship with other departments such as Occupational Therapy and Physiotherapy. The Surgery Unit works closely with community agencies such as Home Care to provide a continuity of care and followup after a patient is discharged home.

Eight operations performed daily

An average of eight operations are done each day at St. Mary's Hospital.

Operations are performed by two general surgeons, one gynecologist and obstetrician and one orthopedist. There are two full-time and two part-time anaesthetists. Surgical suite staff consists of a supervisor, three full-time R.N.s, one part-time R.N. and two full-time R.N.A.s. R.N.s rotate between the operating rooms and recovery room.

The new hospital has three operating theatres for performing caesarian sections, general, gynecological and orthopedic surgery, as well as dental procedures. The operating theatres are larger and have an air shield to provide a better sterile field around the operating tables.

Following an operation, patients are moved from the operating table to a stretcher and transported to the recovery room. The recovery room accommodates four patients and has four central pillars with all the equipment necessary for recovery, such as oxygen, suction and monitors.

"Recovery room is a vital area because patients rely completely on the nurses' skills," said Unit Supervisor Lil Olson. "We must monitor the

patients carefully." Only R.N.s are allowed to work in the recovery room.

The recovery time of the patient varies depending on the patient and the type of surgery.

Special Care for high need patients

Special Care is a sub-unit of St. Mary's 32-bed Medical floor set aside for patients who need high levels of care.

Specially trained nurses on the new four-bed unit will provide concentrated care and 24-hour-a-day observation. The unit has its own nursing desk and is easily visible from the Medical floor's nursing station. In cases of emergency or peak workloads, Medical floor staff will lend support.

Patients referred by doctors to the Special Care Unit will be people with single body system failure, as well as those whose conditions can be improved through cardiac monitoring, intravenous injections, electro-cardiographs or short-term use of respirators.

Beside or on each bed is sophisticated equipment such as cardiac monitors, required for Special Care Units by the Alberta Department of

Hospitals. Curtains around the beds ensure privacy and ease of access to patients in cases of emergency.

For each bed, there is an individual water closet, with sink and toilet commode.

Only families will be permitted to visit in the Special Care Unit, and no flowers will be permitted. A rest period will also be established, during which time no visitors will be allowed.

The remaining 28 beds on the Medical floor will be in eight private and semi-private rooms. An audio visual system utilizing televisions in the patients' rooms will permit nurses to carry out ongoing cardiac and diabetic teaching programs.

Two telemetry packs will allow nurses to constantly monitor heart rates of acute medical or step-down coronary patients.

Congratulations

to the administration
and staff of
St. Mary's Hospital
on the opening of your new facility.

From the Doctors and Staff

SMITH CLINIC

Computerization helps Patient Information Services

Health records, admitting and switchboard are the three areas which make up Patient Information Services.

Six staff presently work in the health records office, while nine work in admitting and switchboard.

Once patients are discharged from the hospital, Patient Information Services (PIS) assembles their records in order and checks to make sure all necessary notations or documents are in place. Completed charts are assigned code numbers which are entered on a computer. This coding allows computers to print out statistical reports, such as how many heart attacks occurred during a certain month. Statistics are sent to the Canadian Data Base in Ontario, where they are used for research and statistical purposes.

PIS also files lab reports and retrieves charts requested by doctors, nurses, lawyers or insurance companies.

The health records office in the new hospital is situated next to the file room, meaning less steps for staff travelling back and forth. Adjacent to the health records office is an area where patients' records will be microfilmed and stored.

Another improvement in the new facility is the addition of a central dictation system,

which will allow patients' reports to be transcribed by doctors over the phone, inside or outside the hospital. According to PIS Department Supervisor Linda Dobson, doctors who want to admit patients presently have to dictate their reports right at the hospital.

The switchboard at St. Mary's serves as an information centre for the public. In addition to answering and directing phone calls, the staff members type lists of patient denominations for pastoral care, lists of patients admitted or discharged from the hospital by the Smith Clinic, and help with chart retrieval.

The new hospital has eight in-lines, eight out-lines and three Edmonton direct lines. More direct in-dial lines mean less calls will have to go through the switchboard.

Computerization of the admission/discharge system will be completed in the near future, something Dobson believes will speed up the admission process.

"We will have all the patients' identification data on computer."

Sign-in monitors will let each of the nursing stations determine if a doctor is "in" or "out", and not tie up the switchboard with requests for information.

Personnel Director meeting new people

Advertising job vacancies, selecting new hospital personnel, and interpreting and implementing four contractual agreements are some of the responsibilities of Director of Personnel Anne Roper.

Other duties include implementing work programs for students, acting as a middle person between department heads and employees, and keeping track of employee evaluations.

Roper said one of the advantages of being Personnel Director is the fact she gets to meet new people every day. Since she started last year, the hospital has hired more than 100 new staff, bringing the total number of employees at St. Mary's to more than 300.

"I'm probably the first person people see when they make an application (for a job) and the last person they see upon the termination of their employment. I'm always busy filling a position or talking on



Anne Roper

the phone to people who have expressed interest in working here."

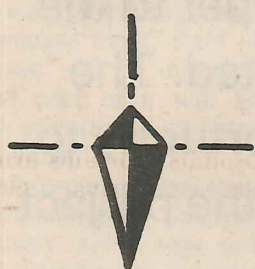
Once staff members terminate their employment at the hospital, Roper does an interview to determine their reasons for departure and to find out about positive or other experiences they have had at St. Mary's.

Miscellaneous functions performed by Roper have included co-ordinating an annual banquet to recognize the years of service by staff members.

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Over 1,000 inventory items on hand

In order to function properly, a hospital needs a wide range of supplies and equipment. Ensuring the equipment and supplies are available when needed is the job of the seven-member Materials Management department.

"We carry 1,000 line items in inventory, 250 of which fall into the 'can't get by without' category," said Dennis Twad-

de, Materials Management Director. He estimates the annual budget for operating supplies to be \$3 million. New equipment and furnishings for the hospital is valued at approximately \$4 million.

Materials Management has adopted a computerized system to look after the issuance and automatic re-ordering of supplies. A lap top computer

also travels to the different nursing units, where the clerks feed into it the amount of stock on hand. The computer then calculates how many supplies are needed to bring the unit up to its quota.

In addition to the ordering of equipment, Materials Management is responsible for the sterilization of procedure trays and operating room supplies.

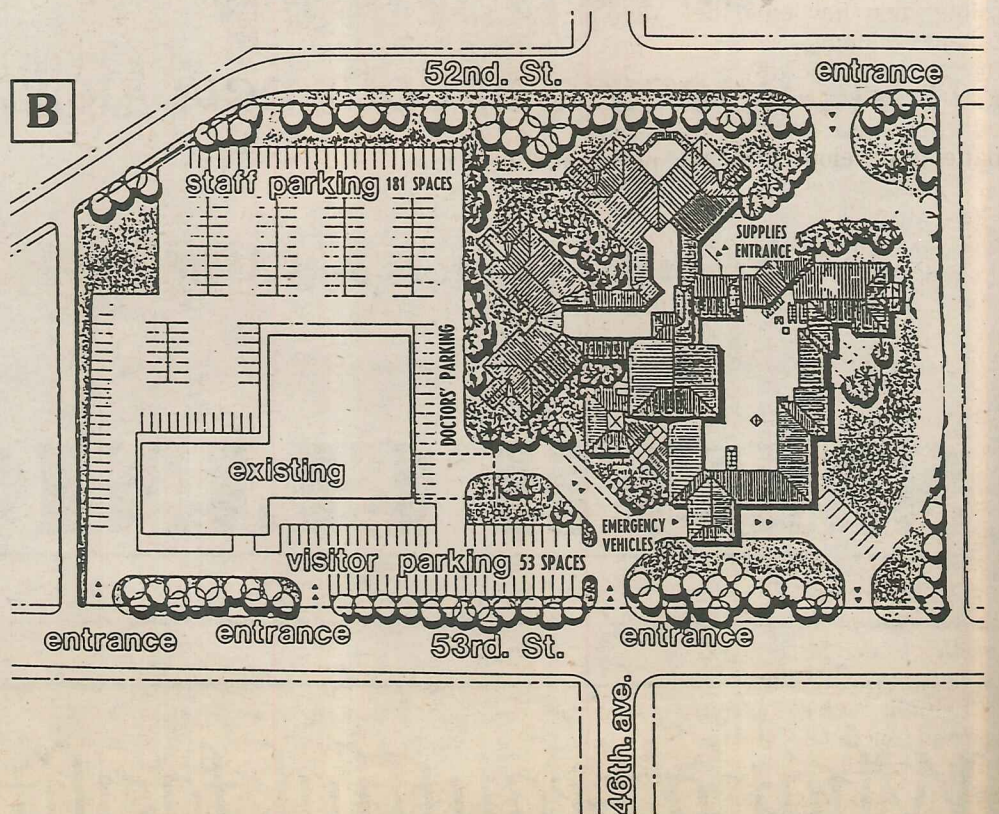
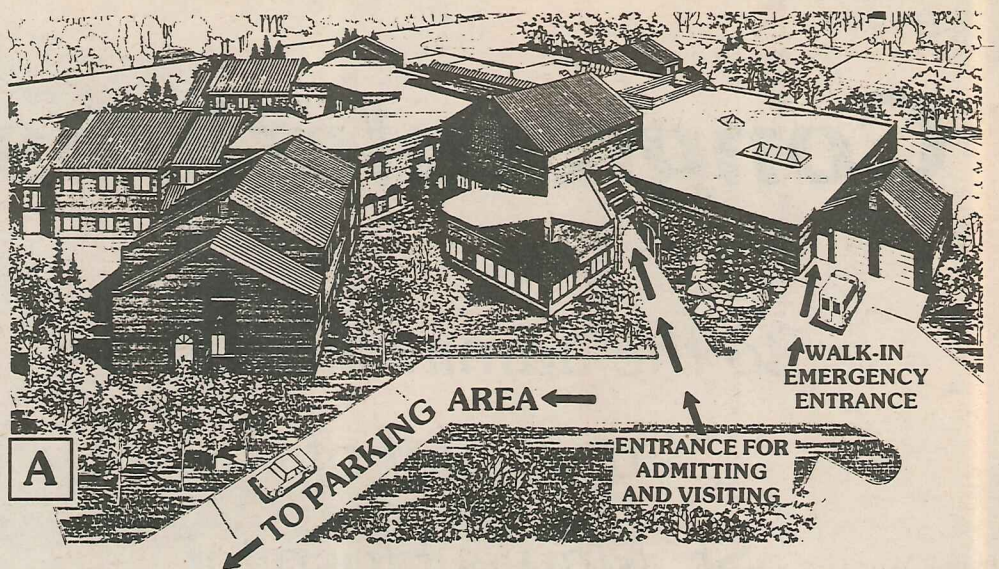
Important Information from St. Mary's Hospital

The new hospital will be fully operational for health care service effective 7:00 a.m., Wednesday, June 28th.

Please note the following information regarding the opening of the new hospital on June 28th, 7:00 a.m.

1. St. Mary's Hospital phone number will change to 679-6100.
2. The emergency department will be open to receive patients (See Illustration A).
3. Admissions will be at the new facility.
4. All patients currently undergoing care will be transferred to the facility.
5. No patient services will be provided in the old building.
6. New parking areas can be utilized. Watch for directional signs.

St. Mary's Hospital will be providing uninterrupted health care service to the citizens of Camrose and district during the transition period. For access to Emergency and Admitting areas, refer to illustration A.



Over 109,000 served annually

Preparing 109,500 meals a year is a big task but one the 20-member dietary and kitchen staff carries out with regularity.

"Our function is to plan, prepare and serve patient, staff and visitor meals which are nutritionally sound," said Dietician Jeannie Poon. "All our food is prepared from scratch and is home-made."

Approximately 300 meals are served each day at the hospital, half of which must be prepared with special diets in mind. These include: clear fluid, full fluid and light diets for those who are just coming out of surgery; low sodium diets for patients with heart problems or hypertension; low fat diets for patients with high cholesterol or gall bladder problems; diabetic diets for patients with diabetes mellitus; cardiac diets for patients who have had heart problems and need a combination of low sodium and cholesterol, and pureed diets for patients who can't tolerate solid food.

"A lot of the patients here are elderly, so they need a special diet," said Poon.

Poon sees several advantages to the kitchen in the new hospital, including air conditioning and modern, up-to-date equipment, which will cut down on the amount of time and effort cooks have to spend preparing meals. The new kitchen

is also three times as big as the old one, meaning staff won't be working back to back or getting in each other's way.

Just off the cafeteria is a patio for staff and visitors who may wish to go outside and enjoy the fresh air.

Considering the number of meals which need to be prepared each day, St. Mary's Administrator, Sister Sheila Langton noted the hospital gets very few complaints about the cooking. She stated a Health Facilities Review Committee recently toured the hospital and did not receive a single food complaint.

Once the move to the new hospital is completed, Poon said she and fellow dietician Kim Sorochoan will be offering nutritional teaching programs for in- and out-patients. Diets for weight loss and patients who have had cardiac problems are some of the topics Poon would like to address.

Poon and Sorochoan are employed by Integ Management and Support Services, a company which also does the purchasing of food and supplies. Members of the kitchen staff come under the St. Mary's payroll.

"It takes away the responsibility of ordering food, etc.," said St. Mary's Hospital Administrator, Sister Sheila Langton. "Instead of having hundreds of bills, we have only one."

A message of Congratulations to:

St. Mary's Hospital

We've enjoyed watching our city's new hospital grow from an idea on paper to the splendid structure now completed. The Camrose Booster takes this opportunity to congratulate those involved with the project on a job well done...



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Occupational and Physiotherapy give patients skills back

In cases of stroke or accident, the medical treatment one receives is just the beginning of the healing process.

The Occupational Therapy and Physiotherapy Departments at St. Mary's Hospital work with patients to help them function as normally as possible when they leave the hospital environment.

Occupational Therapy is a department which has been created in the new hospital to help patients develop physical skills and get re-oriented to everyday living. This involves anything from making splints for damaged limbs, to conducting functional tasks and activities.

The new department features a separate kitchen where patients can practice their cooking, plus a washroom where instruction can be provided on getting in and out of the bathtub.

Patients who have stayed in the hospital for a long time sometimes lose confidence in their ability to do things," explained Occupational Therapist Shaniff Esmail. "We help them go home and function as closely to normal as possible."

Special aids such as a walker, stocking aids or knives which can be operated with one hand will be prescribed to patients if they are felt necessary.

Shaniff said there are a number of programs he will be developing in the new hospital, including a life skills group which will meet three times a week. Some of the areas covered by the group will include self care, meal preparation, home management and work readiness skills.

Giving instruction to stroke victims and their families on what has happened and what should be expected in the future is another program Shaniff would like to establish.

"The family has to be taught to what level the patient can be brought back. Part of the program will be informational and part of it will be treatment oriented using functional activities."

Physiotherapy consists of two physiotherapists and two physiotherapy aides who are dedicated to helping patients achieve their maximum physical potential.

Some of the services presently provided include teaching and supervision of exercises to help increase strength and mobility, as well as education in the use of crutches or walkers.

A laser machine is one of the several pieces of sophisticated equipment Physiotherapy will be using once the new hospital opens. Laser therapy helps wounds to heal faster and reduces the amount of pain a patient feels. Other equipment includes two whirlpools for cleansing of wounds and treatment of swelling or burns, a short-wave diathermy which provides a form of deep heat

and a tilt-table to help get patients weight bearing.

Physiotherapy department supervisor Joanne Daintith explained there are a number of new programs she plans to begin in the new hospital. These include stress testing to see how tolerable cardiac patients are to activity; a clinic for those with chronic chest and breathing problems; and, for patients going into surgery, instruction on the importance of deep breathing and coughing exercises.

The Physiotherapy department is open from 8:00 a.m. to 4:15 p.m., Mondays through Fridays. Outpatients may visit the department between 8:30 and 10:30 a.m. and 1:00 and 2:30 p.m.

In order for an out-patient to receive treatment, he or she must have a referral from a Camrose doctor.

Breathing lessons

Diagnostics and therapeutics are the two main areas of involvement for St. Mary's Respiratory Department.

In diagnostics, tests are done on patients to gain an accurate diagnosis of heart and lung disorders.

Therapeutics involves the use of high humidity to make lung phlegm less sticky, the delivery of medication to assist with inhalation and counteract asthma, assisting patients with deep breathing and coughing following an operation, and oxygen therapy.

"We also do short-term ventilation for people who cannot breathe on their own following surgery or drug overdoses," said Norm Clarke, Manager of the two-member Respiratory Department.

Clarke said he and the other therapist see approximately 300 in-patients and 150 to 200 out-patients per year, some of them from as far away as Viking, Wainwright, Coronation and Alder Flats. St. Mary's is the only hospital in east-central Alberta, excluding

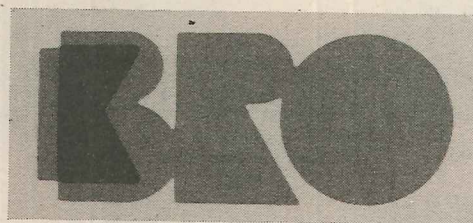
Wetaskiwin to have respiratory therapists.

According to Clarke, 75 per cent of the diseases the department helps to treat are caused by smoking. Others include acute and chronic bronchitis, pneumonia, asthma and emphysema.

Testing is also done for some high risk occupations such as feed processing, welders and elevator workers.

In the new hospital, the Respiratory Department will be initiating an obstructive lung disease program for out-patients. Those who meet the criteria of the program are referred to Physiotherapy for deep breathing and coughing instruction, as well as a clinical dietitian for assessment of dietary needs.

Another service Respiratory intends to provide in the near future is a pre-operative assessment program, which would do a detailed breathing analysis of patients prior to them undergoing surgery.



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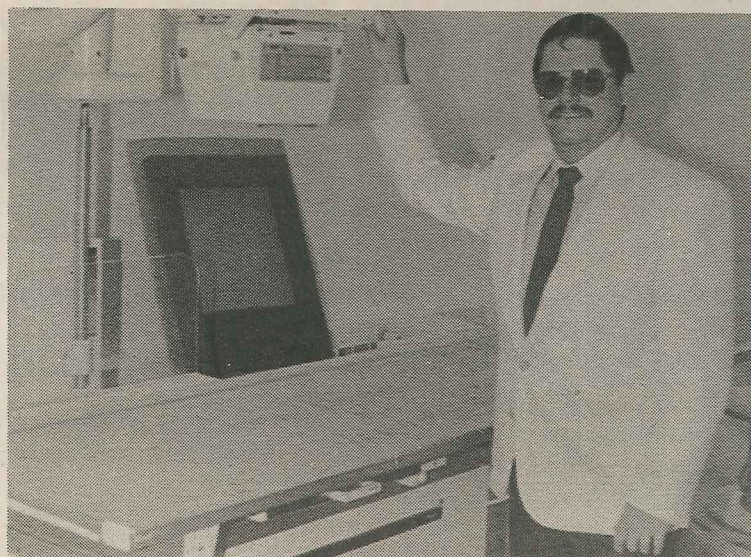
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Radiologist Grant Holtz demonstrates a piece of examination equipment

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In-house drugstore

St. Mary's Pharmacy Department can be described as the hospital's own drug store.

Pharmacy procures all the pharmaceuticals the hospital uses, including oral medicines, narcotics and injectible drugs.

"We do all our ordering and bookkeeping," explained acting department head, Shelley Frost.

The hospital Pharmacy operates on a "unit dose" system where medication is individually packed and given to the nursing units in one-day supplies for each patient.

By keeping a drug profile on each patient, pharmacists at St. Mary's are able to keep track of all medications prescribed by the physicians, allergies to certain drugs and drug interactions. Other services provided include making sure the nursing units have sufficient ward stock, conducting round-ups of expired drugs once a month, and refilling the medication carts in the Emergency and Operating Rooms once a week.

"We are the drug information source for St. Mary's Hospital," said Frost.

Frost said Pharmacy is always keeping up on new uses for medications and trying to find ways to reduce costs. The average cost of medications used at the hospital each month is between \$10,000 and \$15,000.

Once established in the new hospital, Pharmacy will be starting a counselling program for patients who are about to go home. Information will be provided to them on what the medication they are using is for, side effects to watch for, and what should be done if they miss a dose.

Pharmacy staff will also be doing IV mixtures on a daily basis in the new hospital's sterile room. Mixing the intravenous dosages is something presently being done by nurses.

"We don't have the equipment or the manpower to do this now," stated Frost, referring to the fact the department has only one pharmacist and one technician. In the new hospital, these numbers will be increased to include two pharmacists, two technicians and a Pharmacy director.

The hospital will not have an out-patient pharmacy, nor is one planned.



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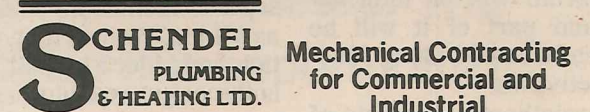
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Lab service to expand

The Laboratory Department at St. Mary's Hospital performs tests on body fluids, tissues and wastes which help physicians diagnose and treat illness.

Utilizing these tests, lab technologists aid in the diagnosis of heart attacks, diabetes, lung disease, kidney disease or anaemia. They are also able to identify antibiotics to which bacteria may be most sensitive, and test for compatible units of blood for transfusion purposes.

According to Lab Depart-

ment Supervisor Sandy Berg, the new laboratory will offer more working space to the eight registered technologists and one receptionist. Combined with some new automated equipment, this will allow the department to expand its services in the near future.

Besides servicing the needs of hospital patients, the lab does work for Rosehaven Care Centre, Bethany Auxiliary Hospital and outpatients. Any work which can't be done at St. Mary's is sent to a referral laboratory in Edmonton.

Examining unborn babes to broken bones

Diagnostic Imaging is a clinical department at St. Mary's which encompasses radiological, ultra sound and electro-cardiogram (ECG) examinations.

"We provide a variety of information to the physician so he can diagnose problems from a broken bone to the status of the fetus in a pregnancy," said Diagnostic Imaging Department Supervisor, Grant Holtz.

Radiology produces images of various anatomical parts utilizing ionizing radiation within a safe level dictated by strict standards that must be adhered to by law. Ultra Sound is different in that it utilizes high frequency sound waves in combination with computer technology to produce images of various anatomical structures.

"It's not necessary to X-ray pregnant women very often due to the ability of ultrasound technology," said Holtz.

An electrocardiogram machine is utilized to measure the electrical activity of the heart.

Strict quality assurance levels in the Diagnostic Imaging department ensure safe levels of radiation are maintained for patients. Regular calibration of equipment is done by qualified service personnel, repeat films are monitored to pinpoint consistent problem areas and pregnancy questionnaires are given to all women of child bearing age.

The Diagnostic Imaging Department is under the direction of Dr. R.G. Hett, one of six radiologists from Diagnostic Imaging Associates. A radiologist specializes in interpreting diagnostic images and performs special radiological procedures.

Most of the equipment to be used for diagnostic imaging in the new hospital is brand new. According to Holtz, the equipment is more precise, state-of-the-art and user friendly for the technologist. One piece of equipment specifically designed for the elderly and small children can be lowered to just over a foot off the floor. The other radiographic table can be tilted 90 degrees both ways, while high frequency generators allow shorter and more consistent exposures.

The majority of work done

by the Diagnostic Imaging Department is for out-patients.

"We do imaging for the Community Clinic and many surrounding areas," stated Holtz. Approximately 10 per cent of the radiology workload is for Dr. Reikie and his orthopedic clinics.

Altogether, Holtz estimates the department does approximately 6,500 x-ray exams, 1,600 ultra sound exams and 1,500 ECGs every year.

18 psychiatric staff make up department

Depression, phobias, anxiety and panic disorders, substance abuse disorders and schizophrenia are a few of the illnesses treated on St. Mary's Psychiatric Unit.

The unit is staffed by 12 nurses, a psychologist, social worker and two part-time secretaries. Dr. Suna Smith is Clinical Director, Department of Psychiatry, while Sheila Vars is Psychiatric Program Coordinator.

In addition to having 10 beds for in-patients, the new hospital's psychiatric unit has more workable space, said Vars. There is also a separate dining room, recreation room, multiple treatment rooms, conference room and out-patient waiting area. On the average, the unit treats or examines 15 out-patients each day.

Treatment consists of group and individual therapy, medication, and in some cases, electric shock treatment. All therapies are tailored to the patients' needs.

"We don't treat children," said Dr. Smith. "We neither have the expertise nor the space." Very few adolescents and elderly are treated.

By January, 1990, St. Mary's Hospital may be able to admit involuntary patients who are a risk to themselves and others, and suffering from a mental disorder. The Mental Health Act of Alberta defines a mental disorder as a "substantial disorder of thought, mood, perception, orientation or memory that grossly impairs judgement, behaviour, capacity to recognize reality or ability to meet the ordinary demands of life.

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Emergency Department to get more room

Dilapidated and crowded conditions in the 1924, 1949 and 1967 wings were reasons for building a new St. Mary's Hospital.

Few areas were more in need of additional space than the Emergency Department, which handled approximately 12,000 cases last year, compared to 4,000 just 10 years ago.

The Emergency Department in the new hospital has a spacious trauma room equipped with two stretchers, heart and body temperature monitors and other lifesaving equipment.

Emergency Department supervisor Betty McDermott explained all Emergency rooms are much larger in the new hospital.

"They will allow us to continue to give quality care," McDermott said.

In addition to the trauma rooms, the department has a three-bed observation room for examinations or minor treatment, plus a one-bed examining room, where one of the pieces of equipment will be a slit-lamp for conducting eye examinations.

The waiting room has a television and vending machines to help pass the time.

Following their recovery from day-surgery, patients will be returned to a four-bed room on Emergency, where they will remain until release from hospital. The room is connected by elevator directly to the operating floor.

"Presently there are no beds designated in the hospital for day surgery," said Director of Nursing Phyllis Lychak. "We use whatever empty beds are available."

Examples of day surgery include gastrostomies, biopsies, gynecological procedures, and minor surgery. Patients in need of day surgery usually come into the hospital early in the morning and are released in the afternoon, between two and five o'clock.

Dr. Rod Reikie will continue his outpatient orthopaedic clinic in a cast and plaster room, equipped with all necessary cast equipment and supplies. The clinic is operated two days a week.

The reception desk has visual access to all the rooms in emergency and the emergency entrance. McDermott said the location will allow patients to find assistance easier when the need arises.

Staffing in Emergency has been increased from two registered nurses on days and evenings and one registered nurse and another person on nights. Nurses in this area are trained especially for emergency cases and prepared at the basic cardiac support level. They also join with other staff in attending a variety of in-house or out-of-house educational workshops.

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Spiritual care stressed at hospital

St. Mary's Hospital's "wholistic" approach stresses total care of the individual, both physically and spiritually.

The Pastoral Care department takes responsibility for the spiritual aspect by coordinating ministerial visitations, consoling patients and grieving families and arranging chapel services. In charge of the department is Sister Bernadine Bokenfohr.

Approximately 37 local ministers are involved in visiting members of their congregations who are patients at St. Mary's.

According to Sister Bokenfohr, a cardex file is kept for ministers with the names and religions of patients who are in the hospital. Only members of the ministerial association are allowed access to these confidential files.

In addition to the ministers' visits, St. Mary's has had eight trained lay pastor volunteers who take communion to Catholic patients from 9:30 to 12:00, Monday through Friday. Other denominations may do the same, provided the volunteers go through an orientation program, are trained and have a reference from a minister.

"They do communion rounds," said Sister Bokenfohr. "If someone needs help or counselling, they report it to a nurse or me."

Catholic Mass is held in the chapel every Tuesday afternoon at 4:30 p.m. The chapel is open for use by all denominations.

"One of our goals is to have a memorial service twice a year for families of patients who died at the hospital," said Sister Bokenfohr.

Transportation is arranged for long-term or rehabilitation patients who want to attend their own church on Sundays through the Rose City Handi-Van, or their own families.

In times where a patient condition becomes critical, the Pastoral Care department contacts the family minister and sets up cots for family members. Doctors will also call Sister Bernadine to be with the families in cases of emergency or when they receive "bad news".

"We have quiet rooms in the hospital specifically for family care," said Sister Bernadine. "Each floor has a quiet room."

Sister Bokenfohr said there is a special climate to pastoral care because of its acceptance by other hospital staff.

"The physicians and staff have enhanced pastoral care because of their acceptance and promotion of the program. Every person can do pastoral care, but no one can do it in isolation."

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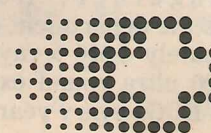
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Computers will help maintain facility

St. Mary's Hospital is a combination of departments which work together to provide quality health care.

The Plant and Equipment Services Department under the direction of Ed Szmadya helps make that care possible by ensuring all the hospital's building systems are operating properly and there is a constant supply of gas, water, electrical power, heating, air conditioning and humidification.

The department also conducts periodic maintenance, installation, repair and acceptance testing on all hospital equipment.

"We do most of the maintenance of medical equipment to make sure it maintains its standard," said Szmadya. "A lot of the critical care equipment is tested on a monthly basis."

Landscaping, snow removal and putting up Christmas decorations are some of the other jobs done by staff.

Once in the new hospital, Plant and Equipment Services will be using a computerized control system which provides full monitoring and operations of building systems from a central location. The computer also has a building management system to control energy use, as well as a maintenance management system which will schedule and monitor all maintenance activities.

"It's probably the biggest change in the new hospital," explained Szmadya.

In addition, the hospital has a standby generator with five times the power of the present one. The generator will carry all critical care areas of the hospital and 20 per cent of the normal power in other areas. A hot water heating system has three boilers, each capable of carrying the heating load for the entire hospital at minus 35 degrees Celsius.

"With the support of a pumper truck which would provide a supply of fresh water, the hospital can operate independently of any utility service," stated Szmadya. "There is no comparing of the two buildings."

During construction, the entire hospital was sealed in a flexible membrane which will allow the hospital to have a controlled environment. According to Szmadya, filters will allow the hospital to have 95 per cent clean air in most parts, and up to 99.95 per cent clean air in the operating rooms and emergency area. Anywhere from 30 to 100 per cent fresh air will be allowed to enter the building.

Contractors were able to construct the hospital within two per cent of their budget.

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June 23**

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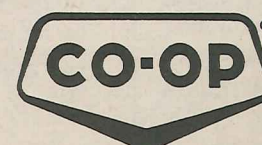
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on the opening of your new facility

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Cleanliness is a top priority

No one has to tell St. Mary's Environmental Services Department the importance of a clean hospital.

Housekeeping is the main responsibility for the department which has 21 staff members.

Environmental Services staff are classified as Aides and Attendants. Aides are responsible for cleaning patient rooms and washrooms and offices, while the attendants are responsible for heavier types of cleaning, such as ceiling and wall washing, floor maintenance and operating heavy equipment. Attendants also do specialty cleaning in isolated areas, labor and delivery rooms, and surgical suites.

With the move to the new hospital, the Environmental Services Department will be adding one more shift so it can better service day surgery areas, late patient discharges and public areas for evening visitors.

"We want to provide better service," said department supervisor Don Maisonneuve. He noted the new hospital will increase the amount of cleaning to be done in patient care areas by about 20 per cent.

Some of the new equipment to be used for housekeeping in the new hospital includes: a complete central-vacuum system which helps reduce the amount of dust and micro organisms in the air; an automatic floor machine; and a tool which disinfects floors, replacing the conventional wet mopping.

Maisonneuve is president of the Alberta Hospital Environmental Services Association, a unit of the Alberta Hospitals Association. Through his involvement, St. Mary's is able to help develop standards for environmental services departments across Alberta and obtain or provide input on cleaning methods. Environmental Services directors from other hospitals who are members of the association make regular visits to St. Mary's to constructively critique standards.

In addition to their own responsibilities, members of the Environmental Services team sit on various hospital committees. According to Maisonneuve, this keeps the department on top of happenings in all areas of the hospital, assists with staff development and makes for good reporting of any hazardous situations.

One of the Environmental Services Department's staff members is designated specifically to the collection and distribution of laundry, which is cleaned for St. Mary's by K-BRO of Edmonton on a contractual basis. The same individual also does the mail portering to and from the different departments.

Maisonneuve is very happy with the quality of staff with which he is able to work.

"They are very enthused with departmental functions and are very cooperative. They always give that little extra."

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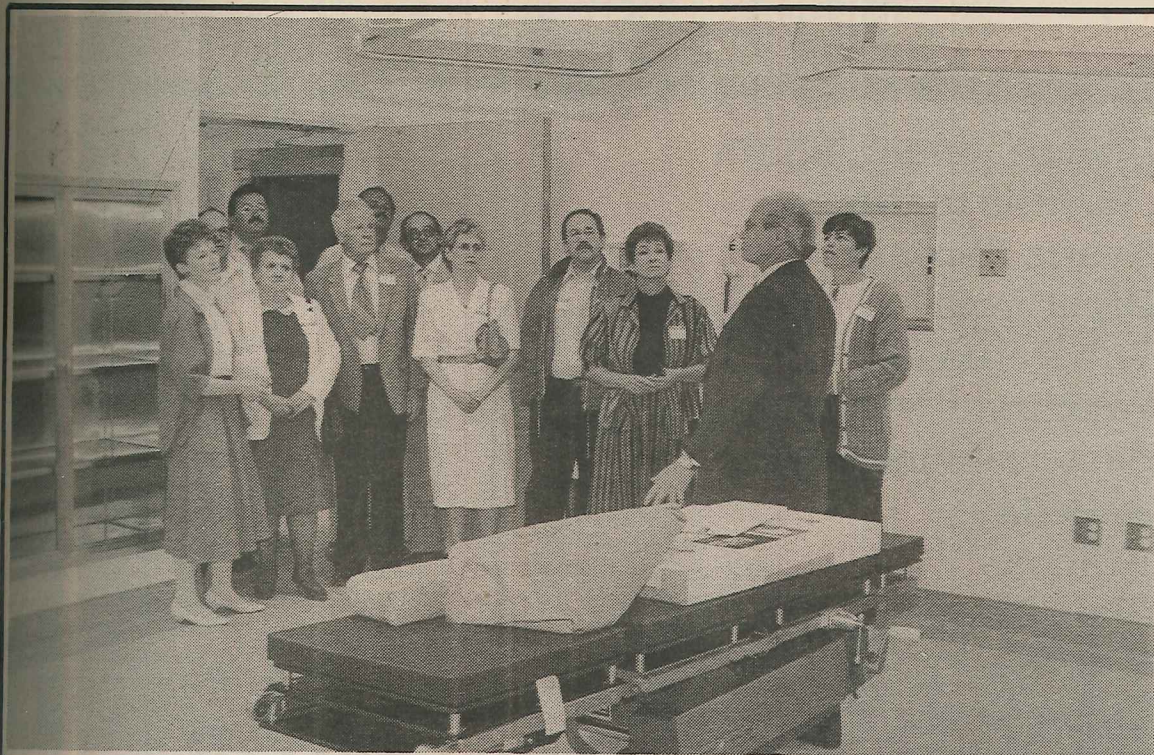
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Taking a peek inside

Advance tours of the new hospital facility were held recently, and several people took advantage of the opportunity to take a peek inside.

At left, Norm Hanoski, the assistant administrator of St. Mary's Hospital, demonstrates the new operating room facilities.

The new ORs are larger and have more up-to-date equipment than the existing facility.

Complete tours of the new hospital will be held as part of the official opening day activities, on Friday, June 23.



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Making childbirth more pleasant

St. Mary's new birthing rooms are designed to make the birthing process as pleasant an experience as possible.

"We're trying to achieve a home-like birth setting with medical backup," said Obstetrics Department Supervisor, Ricky Hoyme.

The two birthing rooms contain a delivery table which resembles a normal bed, a comfortable chair and hide-a-bed for the support person, as well as a television, telephone and private washroom facilities. When the time arrives for the baby's delivery, the room is quickly transformed into a delivery room with medical equipment.

"Everything medical or clinical is behind closed doors, but within easy access," said Hoyme. She added the birthing rooms will eliminate the moving from labor to delivery rooms, when the mother is

most uncomfortable.

Operating rooms are nearby for performing caesarian sections.

The combined obstetrics and gynecology unit features eight private and five semi-private rooms. Rooms are larger than the old ones, enabling babies to spend more time rooming-in with their mothers.

As a result of the expansion from 12 to 18 beds, staff on the combined unit will be increased by one third to include two registered nurses and one registered nursing assistant on each shift. All nurses in obstetrics have received special training.

"It's basically a female ward, with two wings," said Director of Nursing, Phyllis Lychak. A small sitting area has been situated at the end of each wing.

Centrally located on the unit across from the nursing

station for more constant observation is the baby nursery. The nursery has a sunshine ceiling which provides the benefits of direct lighting to babies, along with two smaller nurseries for premature infants transferred to the hospital from other facilities.

Newborn infants will spend the first few hours of their life in one of five isolettes, where they are kept warm and are easily observed. From here they will go to one of 12 bassinets, a kind of crib on wheels. Following the delivery, nurses spend time teaching the mothers how to bath, feed and care for their babies. Videos and current articles on care of infants are also available for the parents to watch or read. Physiotherapy also gets involved with teaching exercises, while a dietitian provides information on nutrition.

Combined unit provides for many

St. Mary's combined Medical/Rehabilitation/Pediatric Unit is one of the largest in the new hospital.

The unit has 12 to 14 beds for medical patients, six for pediatric patients (children) and 12 for rehabilitation patients.

The rehabilitation program encompasses the self-care theory in helping patients with particular handicaps or disabilities progress from a dependent level of care to independence, according to their needs. Patients are those who have had strokes, motor vehi-

cle accidents or spinal cord injury, and the frail elderly.

"We work with the Physiotherapy and Occupational Therapy programs to provide life skills training, mobilization and self medication programs on a group or individual basis," explained Unit Supervisor, Gwyneth Pelster.

The pediatric component of the unit has extra windows for observation of children and a continuously supervised play area right behind the nursing station. Beds and washroom facilities are specially designed for children.

St. Mary's encourages family participation in the nursing care of a hospitalized child to minimize the effects of parent/child separation. Overnight and meal accommodation are provided for the parents if they wish.

Pelster said the unit is hoping to start a play-therapy program in the new hospital to enable children to feel better sooner. Activities will be geared to each child's condition and need.

According to Pelster, pediatrics has multi-disciplinary involvement with other areas throughout the hospital.

Our City's New Hospital is Terrific!

Best wishes on your official opening

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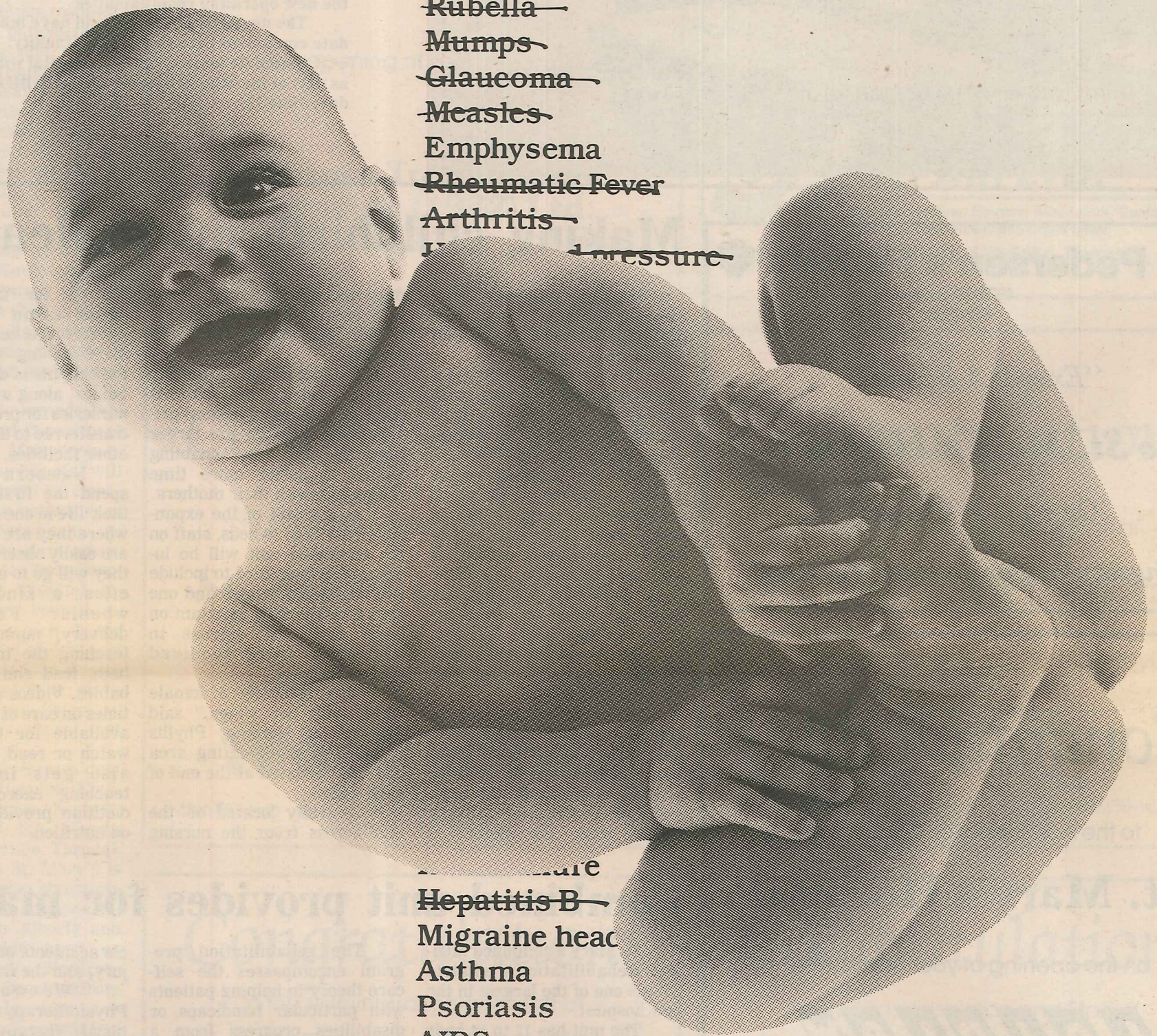
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