

Technology is physician aid for critical patients

By MARY GNIEWEK

The most critically ill patients at Botsford General Hospital now have the benefit of the latest in up-to-date technology.

A \$500,000 computer system installed over the past three months in the hospital's 30-bed critical care unit allows medical staff to monitor all the vital signs of life.

By looking at a screen, a doctor or nurse can monitor each patient's heart rhythm, breathing, body temperature, and blood pressure on machinery that sounds an automatic alarm if sudden fluctuations occur.

Doctors can also store a host of medical data, retrievable at the push of a button.

"When people have heart attacks, they suffer disturbances of heart rhythm. By constant monitoring, we can act on those changes before the roof falls in," said Dr. Joseph Kessler,

chief of internal medicine.

Kessler, who joined the Botsford staff in 1968 as an intern, trains doctors as well as heading up the critical care unit.

With 30 beds, critical care is one of the most high intensity services offered, accounting for 10 percent of all the beds in the Farmington Hills hospital.

The u-shaped wing is divided into three areas, one for coronary care patients, another for intensive care-major trauma victims, and a third for patients who still require special observation.

PATIENT ROOMS are lined with monitoring equipment. Television screens spit out a constant stream of data for interpretation by the staff.

Pumps shoot medication into patients at pre-determined rates. There's even a machine that will "breathe" for a patient if necessary.

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The drama of the medical world emerges as Dr. Andrew Borin (left) and R.N. Carol Mikos perform catheter surgical procedure on a patient. (Staff photo by Randy Borst)



Dr. Joseph Kessler, chief of internal medicine at Botsford, monitors the heartbeat of a patient in the intensive care unit. (Staff photo by Randy Borst)

THE INSIDE * ANGLE

WHAT'S AN American ritual? Thankgiving, football, 4th of July, the 6 p.m. news? Find out how the Ridgewriters, a group of home-grown writers, view America's rituals when they read their own works from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. April 16 in the Farmington Hills branch library, 32737 West 12 Mile. For those writers in the area who want to have their own say in the matter, 12 persons will be allowed to read their own works during the program. There is a five-minute limit on their readings. To be allowed to read your own work at the library, call 553-0300. The first 12 who call will be chosen. Persons who prefer to sit and listen need not register for this program.

SHAME ON ANGLES for making fun of the post office. Remember that street the PO couldn't find. They knew about it all the time except the map the PO uses for routes is a little different than the one handed out by the city halls. Seems section 31 is part of the Northville post office. Angles sends out a conciliatory salute to the folks who were the next best thing to being there when people still thought He Bell was someone married to Pa Bell. (Think of them as letters with proper postage applied.)

NORTH FARMINGTON High School parents are invited to attend Bingo II at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday in the school's cafeteria, on 13 Mile near Farmington Road. Interested persons who coincidentally don't have children in the school are invited, too. Bingo II is sponsored by the North Farmington High Boosters Club, which helps support the school's athletic teams. (An Angles salute to the Boosters: rah, rah, sis, boom bah.)

THE FARMINGTON ARTISTS Club is sponsoring an art exhibit and sale featuring the works of area artists in a variety of media. The show runs from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., April 25-26 and from noon to 5 p.m. April 27 in Mercy Center, gate 4, 11 Mile east of Middlebelt. Admission and refreshments are free.

ATTENTION! A new month is announced: Farmington Hills Clean-Up Month, which runs April 19 through May 17. Keep the city clean and inviting. Dorothy Gordon and Arlene Smolten of the Farmington Hills Beautification Commission are chairing the project in cooperation with the Keep Michigan Beautiful statewide program.

OK, GUYS, batter up. Spring training begins this month for the Farmington Senior Adult Baseball Team. Anyone interested in joining the team as bat boys, pitchers, players, cheerleaders, should sign up at the front desk of the Gathering Place in Mercy Center, 11 Mile near Middlebelt. Barb Here will be team manager. (Let's root, root, root for the home team, IA side. By the way, who gets to do the mandatory George Kell imitation?)

THE FARMINGTON JAYCETTES will sponsor an art auction to benefit diabetes research at 8 p.m. May 9 in the Gallery Art Center, 18831 West 12 Mile, between Evergreen and Southfield Road in Lathrup Village. Preview begins at 7 p.m. Donation is \$3. Beverages and hors d'oeuvres provided. May is dedicated to the eradication of juvenile diabetes. The disease is the leading cause of new blindness and leads to such complications as heart disease, stroke, kidney failure, nerve damage, gangrene and arteriosclerosis.

IT'S BACH to the basics at 3 p.m. April 27 in St. John's Episcopal Church, Woodward at the Fisher Freeway, when organist Huw Lewis conducts a recital sponsored by the St. John's Bach Society of Detroit. The program includes J.S. Bach's "Prelude and Fugue in E minor (Wedg)," Mozart's "Fantasy in F minor and major" and Gogout's "Scherzo." Tickets are \$5 for general admission and \$2 for students and seniors. Guarded parking is available.

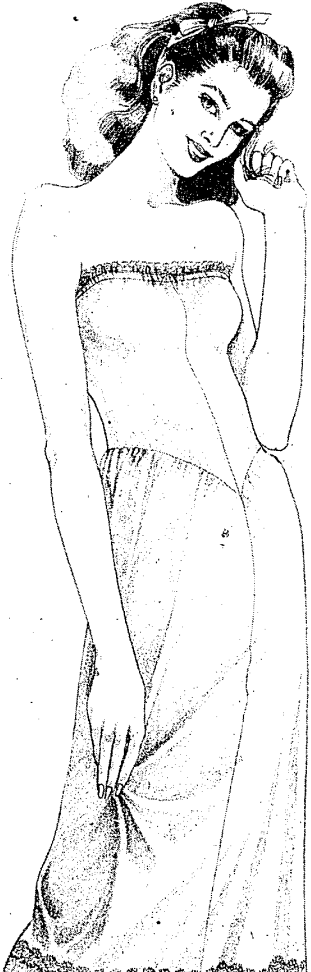
For further information or to reserve tickets call 962-7458.

THE FARMINGTON HILLS Senior Adult Program is sponsoring a golf league for men 60 and older at San Marino Golf Course, 26634 Halsted, between Grand River and 12 Mile. They will be teeing off on at 9 a.m. Fridays beginning in May and continuing through the summer. There is a \$2 fee. Call the Farmington Hills Parks and Rec Department at 474-6115 for further information. Women who want to partake of the sport, call Loretta Conway at 474-6115.

THE FARMINGTON Community Band in conjunction with the Michigan Council for the Arts are presenting their annual concert honoring seniors and the handicapped at 8 p.m. April 27 in Harrison High School on 12 Mile east of Orchard Lake Road.

Idea with bite

A patent for artificial teeth was granted to Charles M. Graham of New York City on March 9, 1922. Porcelain teeth had been introduced as early as 1785 by Dr. John Greenwood, George Washington's dentist. A fascinating look at the dental equipment of yesterday, including a hand-powered dental drill, is part of the precision instruments exhibit in the Street of Shops at Henry Ford Museum.



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