

# Patients from page B4

outside of their living facility.

**Happy patient**

Ninety-seven-year old Ada Adams, a five-year resident of Presbyterian Village in Westland, says she has never driven and has had to rely on her two daughters to get her to and from her Redford physician. Last fall, however, Adams attended a meeting hosted by Oakwood offering residents the option of receiving care from a HouseCalls nurse practitioner and physician within Presbyterian Village.

Calls they can opt to receive their prescriptions from a pharmacy of their choice or rehabilitation from a physician outside the Oakwood Healthcare System. We strive to coordinate the needs of the patient and honor their wishes. Their well-being is our main concern."



Dr. Steven Stain

### Administrator's view

From the viewpoint of an administrator at a senior living facility, HouseCalls has been mutually beneficial for both the residents and the facility.

"Oakwood is a well respected name in the area and the idea that they would come on-site and provide full service health care was very appealing," said Carrie Moon-Dupree, administrator for Presbyterian Village-Westland.

"The average age of our residents is 85 and most of them don't drive anymore. The clinic's location is convenient and the residents who are currently participating are receiving coordinating care from the whole team in collaboration with the R.N., three physicians assistants and a social worker that are on staff here."

The HouseCalls program at Presbyterian Village serves approximately 50 residents out of the 187 that currently make their home there. Moon-Dupree said the feedback she has received since September has all been positive and participation has grown largely due to word of mouth. The HouseCalls team at Presbyterian Village sees patients two half-days a week for scheduled appointments and emergency walk-ins.

# A busy week for the Internet

A busy week for the Internet. The first Internet link has been put to some interesting uses this past week for every thing from posting potentially disruptive viruses, to linking into Web sites to protest the NATO attacks on Serbia, to trying to catch the youthful rioters who gave MSU and East Lansing such a black eye after the Final Four playoffs.

First, the Melissa virus.



The news media coverage gave massive coverage to the Melissa e-mail virus, even though the amount of actual damage attributed to the so-called "swarm" program appears now to be minimal.

Although some of the companies that sell anti-virus software selfishly fueled much of the coverage, they could still more software, the problems so far appear to have been more a matter of incoherence rather than loss.

Several large corporations and government agencies were forced to temporarily shut down their mail servers to sweep their machines free of the virus and the FBI says it is hot on the trail of those who set it loose on the Internet.

But while Melissa itself isn't the threat initially described in some media accounts, many computer experts worry that it will be followed by even nastier versions. And because so much business is now being done on the Internet, the damage "cyber-terrorist" could wreak on the Internet could have a significant impact on the economy.

The government apparently sees that danger. By the end of the week, the FBI had reportedly shut down several Web sites suspected of spreading information on how to write and plant computer viruses.

"A friend who works for Global Connection.net (that's the ISP which was hosting our site) just told me that the FBI visited them and that he had to delete the site," wrote the Webmaster of Codebreakers.org, a virus exchange Web site in an e-mail to the ZDTV Web site (www.zdtv.com).

Another site, SourceOKaos.com, was shut down on Tuesday after the FBI notified Access Orlando, the ISP hosting the site, of an impending search warrant, according to a ZDTV report. A third virus site — colors.net — also was down, apparently having decided to drop out of sight before the FBI came calling.

But Melissa wasn't the only problem for the Internet. Computer hackers, based in Russia and Eastern Europe, wreaked their own havoc on the Net all week. They took over several dozen Web sites, including the NATO Web site (www.nato.int). The site was hit and knocked offline by what officials have described as "hacker-type computer experts in Belgrade." The Web site came under "ping bombardment," according to NATO spokesman Jan Shea.

The hackers, believed to be in Belgrade, sent thousands of empty data packages over the Internet to the site, effectively blocking access to other users. The sabotage is also known as a "Denial of Service" attack — firing at will at a Web site's computer servers in order to overload them and make the site crash.

Shea said NATO was also receiving more than 2,000 e-mails a day from a Belgrade computer, freezing the organization's e-mail capacities, and slowing down its systems.

Last weekend, a Russian online publication claims that Russian hackers shut down the White House Web site (www.whitehouse.gov) in protest over the NATO bombing of Yugoslavia. White House officials denied the story, though they concede the site was out of service all day Sunday. It was brought back online Monday morning.

The White House blamed the outage on an unspecified technical glitch. But a number of other Web sites found their home pages replaced with identical protests of US and NATO bombing of Yugoslavia. "Russian hackers demand to stop terrorist aggression against Yugoslavia!" said one message on a Costa Mesa, California college Web site (www.occcivm-nandance.edu).

Insulting and obscene messages comparing President Clinton to Hitler and referencing "Monica" also were plastered on the site. Several other U.S. Web sites were hacked with the same message.

The Moscow-based Gazeta.Ru online newspaper (http://gazeta.ru/daynew/28-03-1999/46clinton.htm) said Russian hackers had broken into those sites — and had pulled the plug on whitehouse.gov too.

And, closer to home, more than 100 people have e-mailed or phoned in tips in response to a police Web site (http://www.cleatpolice.mi.us/707/index.htm) showing photos of youthful rioters who set fires and vandalized stores after the Michigan State University basketball team lost its Final Four playoff game last week.

The "Final Four Riot Task Force" Web site, operated by the East Lansing police department, called the riot a "major civil disturbance."

In asking for the public's help in catching the culprits, the site noted "Many lives were placed in danger as a result of this incident. Countless fires were set throughout the city and MSU."

One word describes this — ARSON, and it will not be tolerated! Tens of thousands of dollars in damage was done throughout the city and MSU. This "willful conduct," in legal terms is called "MALICIOUS DESTRUCTION OF PROPERTY," and again, will not be tolerated!

Some 18 different photos of young people participating in the riot are depicted on the Web site in a "Hall of Shame." The photos, which can be enlarged, note that the suspects are wanted for such crimes as arson, felonious assault, malicious destruction of property and inciting a riot. A \$50,000 reward pool for tips that lead to arrests and convictions has been established. So far, about 25 people have been arrested in connection with the disturbance.

Mike Wendland reports about computers and the Internet for NBC-television stations coast-to-coast. His radio show is heard every weekend on TalkRadio 1270, WXYT. You can reach Mike through his Web site at www.pemike.com

# Nurse from page B4

the opportunity to diagnose and treat senior patients with common and acute illnesses. "We also provide preventative medicine and health education through a collaborative relationship with the HouseCalls physician," added Buiten.

Nurse practitioners can manage 85 percent of the responsibilities of a physician in a primary care role, said Buiten. A nurse practitioner is a registered nurse with a master's degree in nursing or a certificate in advanced clinical training. They work in partnership with a physician and other healthcare specialists to provide comprehensive medical care.

Some of the duties nurse practitioners can perform include obtaining health histories, performing physical examinations, ordering and interpreting laboratory and diagnostic studies, diagnosing health problems, developing a treatment plan with clients, making referrals and providing counseling and teaching. Nurse practitioners have medication-prescribing privileges in 47 states (including Michigan). Regulations, however, vary from state to state.

"I think the most rewarding aspect of HouseCalls is our ability to provide elderly patients with a continued sense of purpose, continuity of care and a better sense of well being," said Buiten. "I've experienced a greater feeling of

altruism in my practice. The program has really taken off and done well."

Buiten and site coordinator Joseph Gonzalez maintain clinic hours from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. and 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays at Presbyterian Village.

If you would like more information about the Oakwood HouseCalls program call (734) 762-8827.



Joseph Gonzalez

## MEDICAL BRIEFS

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### HIV/AIDS workshop

A workshop, HIV/AIDS and Older Adults, will be presented at Madonna University from 9 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. Friday, April 30. The purpose of the half-day program is to increase awareness of HIV/AIDS in the older adult population and to provide participants with the resources needed to help play a role in combating the disease among the elderly. To register call (734) 432-8731.

### Home care costs

St. Mary Hospital in Livonia and Marywood Nursing Care Center will hold a lecture on "Coping with Aging Parents: Paying for Nursing Home Care," from 7 to 9 p.m. Tuesday, April 6 in the St. Mary Hospital Auditorium. This program will focus on how nursing home care is paid. The lecture will also include a review of benefits under Medicaid and Medicare. Call (734) 855-1876.



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