

Volunteer aid praised at Ford out-patient clinics

By ANNETTE JOHNSTON

"Helping people help each other" is what the volunteer program at West Bloomfield's Henry Ford Hospital out-patient clinic is all about.

The program is designed to increase patient services which contribute to total patient care and the promotion of community interest and understanding.

Betty VanderRoost, coordinator of volunteer services for Detroit's Henry Ford Hospital and its three "satellite" clinics—in Farmington Hills, Troy and Dearborn—said response to the program has been tremendous.

The program, begun at Detroit's hospital in October 1974, has a distribution of almost 300 volunteers at all four locations.

West Bloomfield's clinic, on Maple west of Farmington Road which opened in November, serves as the base for 58 of those.

"Many of the volunteers are working people," said Mrs. VanderRoost. "They are busy people who find time to do something else."

"Much of our regular staff were surprised to find many volunteers were well-trained people," she added.

RETIRED NURSES and others with extra hours to spend as volunteers serve at Henry Ford's downtown facility. As West Bloomfield's out-patient clinic expands, the demand for specialized services there is expected to increase.

According to Mrs. VanderRoost, volunteers assist staff members but do not replace regularly paid personnel.

Volunteers accepted into the program are instructed in workshops directed by Mrs. VanderRoost. They are given general information on atmosphere, procedures and pressures under which clinic staff personnel work.

"I try to make volunteers feel like insiders and part of a team," she said.

On-the-job training provides volunteers the latest information concerning technological and medical advancements.

Recently an operator from Bell Telephone Co. instructed volunteers at the West Bloomfield clinic on usage of computerized phones.

According to Mrs. VanderRoost, volunteers at the township clinic contribute in varied work areas.

In the lobby they welcome and assist incoming patients, escort them to rooms then to rooms and issue passes.

Volunteers transport samples to the lab, file and enter other clerical support with reports and record-keeping.

Volunteers also help patients relax through conversation.

DOLores BRANDEMBER, a township homemaker and mother of four children, has been with the volunteer program since January.

"I had a terrific fear of hospitals and decided to conquer it. I got involved," she said. "And I love it. I answer the phone, register and help assist patients."

"The staff here is great. They're always smiling and saying hello. I look forward to coming to work here."

Lisa Toffoli, a 14-year-old resident of Farmington Hills, is a volunteer who assists in X-ray from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesdays.

She helps with paperwork, escorts patients to rooms and assists doctors.

She plans to become a nurse.

"You meet all types of people," said Maria Saunders, a volunteer in the emergency room.

A township homemaker and mother of a 10-year-old, she calls her work at the clinic "interesting, diversified and I love it."

Marion Nagle, also of West Bloomfield, assists in the internal medicine unit one day a week during and registering patients.

"I wanted to work in the medical field but I have seven children and I'm very often needed at home," she said. "So the work here is perfect. I can still work at what I enjoy and have time for my family."

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Duck stamp contest opens

The annual "Duck Stamp" contest for wildlife art to adorn next year's Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp will open July 15, 1976.

Final regulations governing the administration of the contest were published in the Federal Register on June 19, 1975.

Artists interested in submitting an entry should write to the Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Attn: Audio Visual Office, Washington, D.C. 20260, for copies of the contest rules and an entry form.

Entries will be accepted from now until no later than midnight, Oct. 15, 1976. Only one entry per person will be accepted.

The Migratory Bird Hunting Stamp was authorized and required by the Migratory Bird Hunting Stamp Act of 1934. The stamp's name was changed last year to include the word "Conservation".

Popularly known as the "Duck Stamp," they are sold through post offices and must be carried by every migratory waterfowl hunter over 16 years of age. All of the stamp revenues, beyond printing and handling costs, are used solely for the acquisition of additional habitat for duck and geese.

Prior to 1966, wildlife artists were commissioned to provide the design for the annual stamp. Since that time, the design has been chosen by a contest open to all artists who are residents or citizens of the United States.

The prestige of winning the contest has enhanced the reputations of established artists and has revealed otherwise unknown talents to public acclaim.

The annual contest held by the Service is the only art contest regularly sponsored by the Federal Government. The colorful stamps that are selected through the contest constitute the longest running, annually issued series of stamps in revenue or postage stamp history.

The regulations describe the technical specifications for designs created for the contest; the procedures to be followed in submitting an entry; the qualifications and selection of the judging panel; the criteria to be used in scoring the various entries submitted and the voting procedures to be employed by the judging panel.

Reunion

The Southfield High School class of 1966 will hold their ten-year reunion at the Baypointe Country Club on Aug. 28. For further information call Mr. Foote at 354-7480.

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