

Era goes up in smoke

Hospital enters smoke-free arena

By Casey Hens
staff writer

In light of new legislation that will limit smoking in health facilities, Botsford General Hospital in Farmington Hills will go completely smoke-free this year.

"It was really the only prudent thing to do," said Margo Gorchow, administrator of hospital and community relations. "I think people will welcome it."

"Inequity makes people the most angry and with no smoking, we're all equal."

The Botsford program will begin April 1 and will be in full swing by July 1.

"We are giving ourselves a three-month adjustment period," Gorchow said. "It's important you give people a chance to adjust to it."

THE NEW law passed last year, Public Act 316, takes effect March 29 at all Michigan health care facilities. It was one of a package of anti-smoking bills that passed the Legislature.

It allows three exemptions: for long-term care units, in cases where prohibiting smoking would be detrimental to an individual patient's treatment, or only in designated areas enclosed and ventilated to the outside.

Before the new legislation, the federal Clean Indoor Air Act had prohibited smoking to certain areas of public places. The original state legislation had asked for a total ban on hospital smoking, but was modified to get support from the Michigan Hospital Association.

Botsford officials chose to completely rid their facility of smoke, in light of comments from other health officials who believe there will eventually be a total ban legislated.

"This new act should be viewed as a step towards a total ban that will surely be sought in a few years," said Spencer Johnson, president of the MHA.

"BOTSFORD GENERAL Hospital by its very mission is committed to health," Botsford president Gerenson Cooper said in a March memo to employees. "It is only logical that we act to create a smoke-free environment."

Signage will be put up at the hospital April 1, in addition to offers of free "stop smoking" seminars to employees, Gorchow said. The smoking issue has become an environmental one, she believes.

"If we had asbestos here, we would raise a hue and cry. Smoking and smoke is not different than that," she said. "It's a carcinogen."



Peg Reihmer, vice president for planning, marketing and development at Botsford General Hospital, snuffs out a cigarette as she prepares for the hospital's new smoke-free policy. With her

at right is Margo Gorchow, administrator for hospital and community relations. The Farmington Hills hospital began phasing in its new policy April 1.

RANDY BORST/staff photographer

Student fine arts program starts Friday

The annual Creativity Springs Alive program, which showcases many student works including fine arts, industrial arts and music, is scheduled for Friday-Saturday, April 7-8, at Harrison High School.

Coordinator Paul Barber said he is looking forward to the sixth annual program, sponsored by Farm-

ington Public Schools.

"A lot more people know what it is now," he said. "It's a viable thing. Our intent is to reach as many children as we can. We're trying our damndest."

Harrison High offers the largest gymnasium, which will allow the program to showcase as many stu-

dent works and displays as possible, Barber said. It is also away from regular classroom hallways so Harrison students will not be disturbed by the foot traffic.

All elementary students will be bused to Harrison on Friday, during the school day, to view and participate in the event. It will be open

to the public 7-9 p.m. Friday and again 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday.

INFORMATION ON the program has also been sent to 14 area nursing homes and senior centers. Farmington bus drivers have, once again, volunteered to transport any of these people to the program, Barber said.

This year, music, drama and forensics students have been invited to showcase their work at the entrance to the event, where students will walk before going through the exhibit area.

Also new, an entire section will focus on creative technologies. Creativity Springs Alive balloons

will be distributed Saturday as long as they last.

Barber has coordinated the program since its inception six years ago, when it involved the Odyssey of the Mind program. It has since expanded to include all creative areas of education, but no longer involves O.M.

A Japanese beat helps her keep time to music

By Susan Buck
staff writer

When Katy Holleran makes music, it's with a Japanese beat.

Holleran is a member of the Ann Arbor-based Japanese Music Study Group, headed by University of Michigan professor William F. Malm, Ph.D., an author and researcher of Japanese music.

The 12-member group is perhaps the only one in this area of the country. Three members, including Holleran, serve as the core group; the rest of the study group changes yearly.

"The only other group that we know of is in California," said Holleran, 40, who works as a social worker at Farmington High School.

After taking an undergraduate course with Malm during the 1960s, Holleran joined the group in the fall of 1970 and has been an active member ever since. The group meets every Tuesday in Ann Arbor.

Before obtaining a master's degree in social work, Holleran earned a bachelor's in music history both from the University of Michigan.

She is currently pursuing a piano education degree from Marygrove College.

IN ADDITION to koto music, which Holleran plays, the study group plays ensemble music called nagauta.

Koto is a hollow, 13-stringed, zither-type Japanese instrument. Holleran bought her koto for \$1,200 during a 1984 trip to Japan.

Koto is built from the soft-wooded paulownia tree, which has large, heart-shaped leaves and clusters of purplish or white flowers. Paulownia trees are native to the Orient.

The strings of the koto are stretched over a six-foot oblong box.

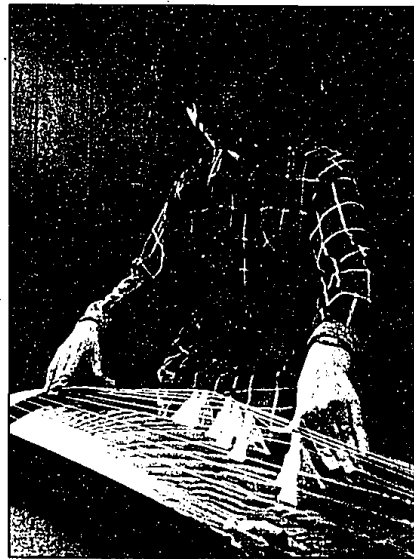
"People think it sounds like a dulcimer," said the softspoken Holleran. "Each time you play it, you have to tune it."

Holleran and her partner, Alice Sano, also play solos and duo engagements of koto ensemble music.

"We play Japanese music gigs," said Holleran, humorously.

Holleran was a featured performer at an authentic ethnic Japanese dinner presented last year at the Farmington Community Center.

Recently, Holleran played at Henry Ruff Elementary in Garden City. Holleran's musical interest provides a fresh perspective and outlet after days spent tending to the myriad demands and needs of Farmington High students. She has been em-



RANDY BORST/staff photographer

Katy Holleran, a Farmington High social worker, with the koto, a Japanese instrument she plays.

people

played by Farmington Community Schools since 1975.

DEPRESSION AND low motivation are some of the problems she assists Farmington students with.

"More and more, I see a lot of unhappy students because of substance abuse in the home," said Holleran.

A resident of downtown Detroit, Holleran is married to Bill, a Detroit firefighter stationed on the east side of Detroit.

Before her marriage 10 years ago, Holleran, a native east-side Detroit, resided in Independence Green apartments, Farmington Hills.

The Japanese Music Study Group plans a free concert at 8 p.m., April 2, at the Rackham Auditorium in Ann Arbor.

Holleran also performs at private dinners, parties and other events and can be contacted at 353-5190.

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