

Patient's Friend: Hospital Volunteer



MRS. MICHAEL JAMES ONOFREY III
(Michelle Margaret Coleman)

Onofrey-Coleman Vows Taken Feb. 9

Michelle Margaret Coleman became the bride of Michael James Onofrey III in a double-ring ceremony before the altar of Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic Church, Farmington, Friday, Feb. 9.

Father Gerald Nitkowski officiated at the rites.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Herbert E. Coleman, of Folkestone Drive, Farmington, and Mr. and Mrs. Michael Onofrey II are parents of the bridegroom.

CHANTILLY LACE formed the cost-effect trim on the bride's white pearly gown. Lace petals centered with a crystal drop held her fingertip illustration veil, and she carried a cascade of gardenias and lily.

JOHN SNYDER was best man, and the bridegroom also was assisted by groomsmen Joe Nicholas, Jack Long and Ron O. Kopy and ushers Dennis Louks and Michael Coleman, brother of the bride.

The bride's mother chose a floor-length gown of shocking pink crepe, and Mrs. Onofrey wore pink satin and lace.

After a reception for 235 guests in Glen Oaks Country Club, the couple left for a New York honeymoon. The bride, a graduate of Our Lady of Sorrows High School, is employed at Great Scott supermarket, and her husband is employed by Domestic Linen Service. He graduated from Redford Union High School.

BY MARGARET MILLER
Women's Editor

A patient's best friend in St. Mary Hospital often is a pleasant and efficient woman in a blue uniform.

She's a member of the St. Mary Hospital Volunteer Guild, a group of 94 women who are on duty regularly at the hospital to provide valuable assistance to the busy staff.

MOST OF THEM put in several hours one day a week. A few are at the Livonia hospital once a month.

They man the front desk. They carry juice to the patients and deliver their mail.

They administer tender loving care in the pediatrics ward. They willingly take on just about any job assigned to them.

"I'm the best dumb-watter you have around here," one of them quipped to Nursing Services Director Rita Radziowski one day as she hurried down the hall with a cart of juice.

REPRESENTATIVE of the dedicated corps are four Livonia women, Mrs. Marian Van Riper, Mrs. Mary Jane Korczyk, Mrs. Eva Pender and Mrs. Mary Ann Hull.

Mrs. Van Riper, a widow, can be found on duty in the front office every Saturday and sometimes on Sunday. She is captain of the Volunteers who perform that service, and she has been giving her time to St. Mary ever since 1965.



RECORD KEEPER
Mrs. Marian Van Riper

its bloodmobiles into the Livonia area, and she also is in charge of an equipment loan closet sponsored by the Livonia Health Guild.

She believes wholeheartedly in volunteer service to her community.

"YOU CAN MAKE the patients so happy," she said, "and you realize how fortunate you are to have your own health. And you never get moody when there's so much to be done."

Mrs. Korczyk, mother of six, has been a volunteer with the guild since December of 1958, even before the hospital officially opened. She took her regular turn even while pregnant with her twins, who are now seven years old.

"I put in my time in the evening," she said, "and the family gets along fine. My husband knows I need to take some time for things like this."

Heading the group of evening volunteers who takes to the patients a jumbo "nightlight," Mrs. Korczyk admits that sometimes the volunteers become quite attached to some of the long-term patients.

"And when you don't see them any more, it's terrible to have to ask what happened."

ANSWERED MRS. Van Riper -- "If you're in the front office, you don't ask. You look it up."

Mrs. Hull started helping in the hospital's busy I-East department in October of 1965. She had just moved from Milwaukee with her husband and three children, and wanted to find a volunteer service she could do.

"I'd done other kinds of volunteer work," she said, "but hospitals always fascinated me like an outer space program."

She puts in her time in the mornings, while her three youngsters are in school.

THE ACTION ARENA for Mrs. Pender is the pediatrics ward.

For nearly two years she has been reporting for five hours once a week to comfort fretful children, read a few stories, help feed those whose parents can't be on hand and just be generally helpful around a group of very special young ones.

Mrs. Pender has children 20, 18, and 15 years of age. She has worked at the Plymouth State Home and been a Girl Scout leader.

"But I like this best," she said, "with my own children

growing up, I enjoy the little ones, and bigger ones -- patients at St. Mary find their stay a better one because of the work of 94 devoted women.



BEDTIME STORY -- Mrs. Eva Pender has a quiet moment with a book for young Edward Goschinski, son of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Goschinski, of Northville.



READY FOR JUICE TIME -- Mrs. Mary Jane Korczyk (left) and Mrs. Mary Ann Hull prepare cups of juice to deliver to patients just before bedtime.

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