1992-12

Campus Update: December 1992 v. 4, no. 10

Boston University Medical Center

http://hdl.handle.net/2144/19034

Boston University
'Boston Can Share' tally highest ever at Medical Center

Boston University Medical Center employees toted 2,772 cans of food to work for the "Boston Can Share" food drive this fall, pushing the BUMC contribution up dramatically for the third straight year, and demonstrating just how much employees care. Last fall, employees donated 1,502 cans. In 1990, they donated 650 cans.

"This effort is really one of the thousand points of light," said the leader of the BUMC drive, Jim Chalmers, an employee-relations representative in the Medical Campus Office of Personnel. "The drive represents people of the community coming together to show they really do care."

"I was in social work for years," Chalmers said. "To find that the philosophy of helping others pervades the BUMC community, as well, is really exciting. It's rewarding for me to be able to assist on something where there is so much employee interest."

Chalmers led the effort that began last year to enhance Medical Center employees' participation in the citywide Can-Share initiative. He said he thinks the effort is just beginning to hit its stride, and that next year even more employees will contribute to the campaign.

Thank you BUMC!

BUMC leaps into the 90s with can share.

Helping to coordinate the drive for the last two years have been Jim Munroe, the manager of custodial services for the Medical Campus, Betty Ollen, an instructor of public health at the School of Public Health, Denise Lobb, an administrative coordinator at the Goldman School of Graduate Dentistry, Monique Jackson Taylor, an employee representative for Boston University Medical Center Hospital's Department of Human Resources, and Joannie Jaxtimer, the Medical Center director of community services.

Jaxtimer said she looks forward to even greater success next year. "It was a terrific initiative this year," she said, "and next year we have the opportunity to make an even larger contribution." Jaxtimer plans to promote the Can-Share drive in the neighborhoods surrounding the medical area next fall by offering residents the opportunity to use the Medical Center as a drop-off site for cans.

The citywide, annual food drive, sponsored by the City of Boston, ran from Oct. 26 through Nov. 13. The intent of the campaign is to fill the shelves of more than 250 emergency food pantries and soup kitchens throughout eastern Massachusetts just prior to the holiday season. All of the donated food is distributed through the nonprofit Boston Food Bank.

University's holiday fete set for Dec. 17

A festive buffet, door prizes and a display of employees' ice sculptures will cheer the halls of this year's Boston University Holiday Party, scheduled for Thursday, Dec. 17, from 3 to 5 p.m. in the George Sherman Union ballroom on the Charles River Campus. The annual event, held for all faculty and staff of the University, is intended to provide an opportunity for employees to gather together. So often during the year, employees speak on the phone with one another but don't actually have the chance to meet in person.

"Holiday traditions" will be the theme of both the party and the ice-sculpturing contest, which will be judged at the gala by the guests. All employees are invited to participate in the sculpture competition. Teams of up to four people will work on their sculptures on Dec. 14, 15, and 16, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., on the loading dock of the George Sherman Union ballroom. Any Medical Campus employees who are interested in putting together a team should call Mary Farrell, in the Boston University Department of Overseas Programs, at 353-3028.

Shuttle buses will leave the Medical Campus from the Talbot parking lot at 2:30 p.m. and again at 3:30 p.m., returning at 4:15 p.m. and 5:15 p.m.

For more information, contact Jim Chalmers, an employee-relations representative in the Medical Campus Office of Personnel, at 638-4610 (x4610).

BOSTON UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER

December 1992 Vol. 4 No. 10

'Have yourself a merry intersession...'

For the 18th consecutive year, Boston University will observe an intersession closing for the holiday period, from 1 p.m., on Thursday, Dec. 24, 1992, through Friday, Jan. 1, 1992, at midnight.

Employees not covered by collective-bargaining agreements will receive time off at their regular rates of pay during the intersession; those who are required to work and to perform essential services are entitled to receive compensatory time off at a later date. Represented employees' time off and pay are governed by their collective-bargaining agreements.

Boston University Dental Plan members please take note: See page 4.
Holiday safety tips offered

- With the holidays approaching, it is particularly important not to leave gifts in cars, as thieves will be on the lookout for an opportunity to steal them.
- With early sunsets and snowy days upon us, the Office of Parking Services urges employees to take caution in the parking lots. Keep roadways and firelanes clear. Avoid walking through the Lot A and Lot C vehicle entrance-ways. Take note of the pedestrian accesses in the lots.

A vision of things to come: Construction of the second building planned for BioSquare, the new medical complex being built along Albany Street by Boston University Medical Center, is expected to begin soon. The groundbreaking for the parking/retail/child-care facility is expected to begin before the end of the year. Pictured above is an artist's rendering of the proposed building, courtesy of Cannon, the architect for this building. Meanwhile, construction continues on the first building under construction in BioSquare, the Center for Advanced Biomedical Research. This building is expected to be ready for occupancy a year from now, in November 1993.

Van pool program offers incentives

An incentive program intended to encourage van pooling as a means of commuting to work is being sponsored by Caravan for Commuters, Inc., in cooperation with the Massachusetts Highway Department. The goal of this program is to reduce the number of cars being used by commuters, in an effort to reduce automobile emissions in Massachusetts.

Under the "Van Pool Incentive Program" (VIP), a commuter will be eligible to receive a discount on the monthly cost of a van pool seat when he or she joins a van pool. The program is available to the first 100 qualified commuters in Massachusetts who join Caravan vanpools during the course of the program. The discount is offered for a period of 18 months. Eligibility requirements include that the commuter be a full-time van pool rider, and that he or she be a solo-drive commuter switching to van pooling or joining a van pool due to a new commute.

For more information about this program, or to sign up for it, contact Medical Center Transportation Coordinator Maureen Flaherty, at 638-7430 (x7430).

ITMA celebrates year of substantial accomplishments at Medical Center

Members of the Interinstitutional Transportation Management Association (ITMA) gathered as usual for their monthly meeting last month, but this time they brought a cake. The occasion was the one-year anniversary of the incorporation of their consortium, and it served as an opportunity to look back on the group's numerous significant accomplishments.

The commissioner of the Boston Transportation Department, Richard A. Dimino, as well as representatives from Caravan for Commuters and the MBTA, were on hand.

ITMA is a Boston University Medical Center and Boston City Hospital coalition working to improve transportation options to the medical area. The long-term goals of the association include reducing the number of cars commuting to the area, thereby reducing air pollution and traffic congestion.

The successes of the group to date include establishing an evening-shuttle service; installing bus shelters on East Newton Street and East Concord Street; conducting an employee commuter-mobility survey; conducting commuter-information events, and creating a Bicycle Advisory Committee, which ultimately led to the purchase of additional bike racks. The group's efforts also have included working with the city's Central Artery/Third Harbor Tunnel committee, as well as with representatives of the MBTA.

Future plans include conducting a patient/visitor transportation survey in January and installing transportation-information kiosks at the Hospital, at the School of Medicine and at Boston City Hospital. Plans also include setting up a transportation-information telephone recording.

"The ITMA represents a cohesive group committed to meeting monthly to work on improving transportation to the medical area," said Maureen Flaherty, the Medical Center transportation coordinator. "We feel we are making significant progress."
Medical Campus staffing during intersession:

During intersession, the following departments will remain open at the Medical Campus:

Facilities Management: This office will be operational with limited staffing; to report problems, contact the Medical Center Control Center, at 638-4144 (x4144).

Parking: Lots A and C will be operational according to the normal weekday schedule during the intersession, as will the shuttles (and evening shuttles) for the parking lots and the Broadway "T" station. Neither the parking lots nor the daytime shuttles will be operational on Christmas Day and New Year's Day. However, the decision on whether or not to operate the Evening Shuttle service on those two days has not yet been made. For more information, contact the Office of Parking Services, at 638-4915 (x4915).

Security: This department will maintain a normal operating schedule.

Public Relations: This office will be covered to handle media inquiries.

BUMC names three Black Achievers for 1993

Three members of the Medical Campus community have been named Black Achievers for 1993, under the Greater Boston YMCA Black Achievers Program. The program, now in its 17th year, is intended to promote the recognition of accomplished black employees and to foster the development of minority youth by exposing them to these positive role models.

The Medical Campus, the Evans Medical Foundation and Boston University Medical Center Hospital have participated in the program for the last seven years.

The three Medical Campus recipients are Marilyn Ledbetter-Johnson, an analyst in the Medical Campus Office of Sponsored Programs; Linda Green, a secretary in the Goldman School of Graduate Dentistry's Department of Prosthetics; and Janet McGill, a program coordinator in the School of Public Health.

Under the YMCA program, Black Achievers agree to be matched with students in the Greater Boston area to serve as their mentors for a year. During this time, they are expected to fulfill a minimum commitment of 40 hours of volunteer time. Nominations for Medical Campus recipients of the award are made by deans, department chairpersons, directors and principal investigators of departments. To honor those recognized at the Medical Campus, the Hospital and the Evans Medical Foundation, and to focus attention on the importance of such leadership in the black community, the Medical Center will hold an annual recognition program in early January. There will also be a citywide dinner hosted by the YMCA for all new Black Achievers on Jan. 14.

Marilyn Ledbetter-Johnson

Linda Green

Janet McGill

Campus weather-emergency policy

With winter fast approaching, employees should be aware of the Medical Campus' weather-emergency guidelines. Generally, the Medical Campus has a "no-close" policy and remains open during weather emergencies. However, in the event that an all-day closing or delayed opening proves necessary, announcements specific to the Medical Campus will be made between 6 and 9 a.m. on the following stations: Radio stations: WBZ (1030 AM), WHDH (850 AM), WRKO (680 AM), WBXM (98.5) and WBUR (90.9 FM). Television stations: WBZ-TV (channel 4), WHDH-TV (channel 7) and WCVB-TV (channel 5). These are the only stations authorized to announce University closings and delayed openings.

Employees and students are requested not to call the Boston University Campus Police Department to verify a University closing.

During the day, the decision to shorten the workday normally will be made by 3 p.m. On such occasions, the Medical Campus Office of Personnel will notify department heads, who, in turn, will communicate this information to their respective employees.

Employees in essential services, as determined by department heads, should report as scheduled. Essential services include, but are not limited to, Medical Campus security and facilities management personnel.

For more information, contact the Medical Campus Office of Personnel, at 638-4610 (x4610).

Let the office festivities begin, but decorate with safety in mind

In an effort to make the holiday season a safe and happy one for Medical Campus employees, the Medical Center Office of Safety urges employees to remember the following policies:

1. Employees are welcome to put up Christmas trees in their offices, as long as the trees are artificial and flameproof, and were sold with a certificate of approval from the Boston Fire Department.

2. Decorations may be used, provided they are not flammable. Only floodlights may be used for lighting. Natural evergreen trees, boughs and laurel rope should not be used.

3. Trees should be displayed in places where they will not block or obstruct exits or aisles.

For more information, call the Medical Center Office of Safety, at 638-8830 (x8830).
BUSHM names interim chief librarian

Andrea Weinschenk, A.M.L.S., has been appointed the interim chief librarian for the School of Medicine's Alumni Medical Library. She fills the vacancy left by Irene Christopher, who retired as Chief librarian last month, after 22 years of service.

Weinschenk remains the co-head of the bibliographic services department at Boston University's Mugar Memorial Library. Before joining the staff at Mugar in 1985, she had extensive experience with both university and medical libraries at the University of Michigan and at Wayne State University. She was involved at Mugar Library in the development of computer services before her appointment as co-head of the bibliographic services. Weinschenk will serve as interim chief librarian until a permanent chief librarian is appointed.

Medical Center hoopsters tip off

The 1992-1993 season of the Solomon Carter Fuller Mental Health Center basketball league has begun, and members of the Medical Center community are invited to join a team, create their own departmental teams or attend the free events as spectators. The teams are comprised of employees from the Medical Campus, Boston University Medical Center Hospital and several neighborhood businesses.

All games begin at 6:30 p.m., and are held on Wednesdays in the gymnasium of the mental health facility. For a season schedule or to sign up to play, contact Bob Filmore, league supervisor and coordinator, Monday through Friday, at 266-8800, x204 or x504.

Update on Boston University's Dental Health Care Centers' hours

Boston University's two Dental Health Care Centers, which serve members of the University's Dental Health Plan, can be reached at the following numbers, and are open at the following hours:

- The 930 Commonwealth Avenue facility can be reached at telephone number 739-0033. The hours of the office are 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday; 8:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Wednesday; and 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Friday.
- The 100 East Newton Street facility, located at the Goldman School of Graduate Dentistry, can be reached at 638-4670 (x4670). The office there is open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Thursday, and 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Friday.

Dental plan employees take note for emergencies during intersession

Emergency dental service will be available during intersession for members of the Boston University Dental Health Plan. Those seeking assistance should call the 100 East Newton Street facility, at 638-4700 (x4700). The person receiving inquiries there will direct callers to the appropriate emergency-service number, and will provide information about hours and availability of service.

Pine Street Inn's 'Adopt a Bed' plan

The Pine Street Inn, in conjunction with WVBF-FM radio, is conducting its annual "Adopt a Bed" campaign. For every $10 donation made, a warm bed will be provided to one of the Inn's guests during the winter months in the donor's name. Adopting a bed in someone's honor can serve as a holiday gift. An "Adopt a Bed" card and button acknowledging the gift will be sent to the person in whose name the gift is made.

For further information, contact the Pine Street Inn at 482-4944, x609.