Prompt Report
On Job Urged

Lost time of employees because of on-the-job accidents decreased 60% for the six-month period of January-June, 1966, when compared with the same period in 1965. Although there has been a 25% increase in total accidents, this may be partly because of the additional employees at the hospital during the past year. Also greater emphasis has been placed on reporting all injuries.

The supervisory employee injury report was used for the first full 12-month period in 1965. Major departments with no injuries or a reduction in accidents for this six-month period were: Maintenance, medical records, pharmacy and purchasing.

The administration urges that all departments continue to report all injuries. (Continued on Page 6)

School of Nursing Awards R.N. Diplomas to 54 Seniors

The administration urges that all departments continue to

Employes to Get
9 Months Free
Life Insurance

All full-time Barnes employes will receive nine months of free life insurance beginning this month and extending through May 1967. This means that no insurance deductions will be made from employee paychecks, but all of the benefits of Barnes group insurance carrier, Metropolitan Life, will continue as before.

This bonus is possible because the total premiums jointly paid by Barnes and the employees were more than enough to satisfy life and disability claims submitted by Barnes in the past year. The premium and the amount of an individual employee's policy is determined by his salary.

Two other times Barnes was fortunate enough to pass on to employees a "good experience rating" with Metropolitan Life. From Oct. 1964 through March 1966.
Watch Out for That ‘Bite’!

You wouldn’t think of handling a live rattlesnake, or even a dead one. Yet a defective electrical appliance or cord can give you a “bite” almost as dangerous and frightening as that of a rattlesnake.

The “bite” or electric shock not only may frighten, but can also cause severe injury. In an incident a few years ago a hospital employee received a shock from a defective cord, jumped backward, and sustained a bad back injury when she jumped into a heavy piece of furniture.

Other incidents have resulted in painful burns. Occasionally, you read of an accidental death from misuse of electrical equipment, usually from lack of grounding or portable tools used on construction jobs.

Electricity, if given proper respect, is a wonderful servant. It requires wiring, cords and equipment to be in good condition for safe use. You should, therefore, report any suspected or known defects so that necessary repairs or replacements can be made.

Don’t wait for that shock or “bite” to remind you.

Edward J. Thurman
Safety and Security Coordinator

Candy Strippers Honored in Busch Stadium

Barnes Hospital Candy strippers were honored at pre-game ceremonies September 1st at the new Busch Memorial Stadium. Striped caps were awarded to girls who had completed their first 100 hours of service at Barnes. Recognition also went to other Candy strippers for their performance during the past summer.

The capping and awards ceremony is held annually. This year tickets to the Cardinal baseball game were donated by Mrs. Richard Hawes and Mrs. Kenneth Gable, Allen, Auxiliary president, welcomed the girls. Miss Barbara Peat, editor of Peppermint Press, presented certificates to the newspaper’s staff. Mrs. Raymond Meisheimer and Mrs. Harry Steen capped the girls, and awarded pins for hours of service to both boys and girls.

Chairmen of the ceremony were Mrs. Richard Hawes and Mrs. Kenneth Gable.

John M. Boyer, assistant director in charge of personnel, was a guest panelist August 13 on KMOX-TV’s “Close-Up” program. He appeared on the television show with Ben Roth, assistant vice chancellor for medical affairs at Washington University School of Medicine, and Donald M. Sugars, D.D.S., board member of the Health and Welfare Commission of Metropolitan St. Louis. All three panelists questioned J. Wayne Algord, director of the women’s Job Corps program for the entire Metropolitan St. Louis.

Miss Marion Stumpf has been promoted to director of recreation. She will continue on the staff in that position. Formerly director of occupational therapy, Miss Stumpf has also served as a part-time recreation consultant.

Miss Stumpf Heads Activity Therapy

The Wishing Well Gift Shop is offering for sale Christmas cards designed especially for the shop. The slim cards, all alike, are 3 1/4 inches wide and 8 1/2 inches deep, and feature a bright cluster of holly. The original silk screen for this print was designed by Gila Rosenbloom.

The cards are 20 cents each, and each includes a small card which may or may not be included when the Christmas card is mailed. The smaller card reads, “This card represents a contribution to Barnes Hospital.”

THE GREEN RUN is the responsibility of Larry A. Betzel. Here he takes a patient chart to be delivered to the eye clinic from Miss Carolyn McAvoy, file clerk in medical records.

A special messenger on the “green run” is September’s messenger of the month, Larry Boyer and Roth Are Guests on TV Show

John M. Boyer, assistant director in charge of personnel, was a guest panelist August 13 on KMOX-TV’s “Close-Up” program. He appeared on the television show with Ben Roth, assistant vice chancellor for medical affairs at Washington University School of Medicine, and Donald M. Sugars, D.D.S., board member of the Health and Welfare Commission of Metropolitan St. Louis. All three panelists questioned J. Wayne Algord, director of the women’s Job Corps program for the entire Metropolitan St. Louis.

Next year, Larry plans to attend night school to complete his education.

A. Betzel, Larry has the longest service record of any messenger in Dispatch. He has been at Barnes since December, 1961.

The “green run” is delivery of patients’ clinic charts from 5A floor in Wohl Hospital to the eye clinics; ear, nose and throat clinics, x-ray, and the Prevention of Blindness Office (POB).

The “green run” will be made by Larry living with his mother and two younger brothers at 4543 Dawson in North St. Louis. He has two married sisters. Larry’s hobby is roller skating. He enjoys figure skating, dancing on skates, and free style, and is a member of the Roller Skating Club of St. Louis.

Miss Stumpf was head of the recreation department in 1953. She has been at Barnes Hospital since 1956. She joined the Barnes staff in 1953.

Barry Seward, formerly a recreation leader in Renard Hospital, has been promoted to director of recreation. He will be in charge of the recreation program for the entire Barnes Hospital Group, including Barnard Hospital, last year was allotted $327,316 to help meet some of the hospital’s expenses on charity patients and clinic operations.

Formerly director of occupational therapy, Miss Stumpf has served in that position since 1956. She joined the Barnes staff in 1953.

In 1965 Barnes employees exceeded their U. F. goal with a total of $233,831 in pledges—the highest amount in the hospital’s history. There was a 9% increase in pledges over 1964.

The 1966 United Fund campaign will begin October 3 at Barnes Hospital as it will all over the metropolitan St. Louis area. Information and pledge cards will be distributed with employee paychecks.

As one of 117 area recipients of United Fund money, the Barnes Hospital Group, including Barnard Hospital, last year was allotted $327,316 to help meet some of the hospital’s expenses on charity patients and clinic operations.

Miss Nancy Craig, assistant director, will again serve as chairman of the Barnes’ campaign. “We hope to make 1966 an even more successful year,” she says.

Miss Stumpf Heads Activity Therapy

The Wishing Well Gift Shop is offering for sale Christmas cards designed especially for the shop. The slim cards, all alike, are 3 1/4 inches wide and 8 1/2 inches deep, and feature a bright cluster of holly. The original silk screen for this print was designed by Gila Rosenbloom.

The cards are 20 cents each, and each includes a small card which may or may not be included when the Christmas card is mailed. The smaller card reads, “This card represents a contribution to Barnes Hospital.”
Danforth Students Spend Day Touring Barnes

Recently, 93 outstanding college students toured Barnes as part of the annual Danforth Tour. Fifty-one senior girls majoring in home economics toured Barnes on July 26, and 42 male seniors with majors in agriculture toured on August 9. They represented almost every state in the U.S., in addition to Canada and Puerto Rico.

The groups had morning meditation with Chaplain Simundson and were welcomed by Robert E. Frank. They viewed surgery, and then visited many areas of the center such as the burn unit, the diagnostic laboratories, Central Service, and the Irene W. Johnson Institute of Rehabilitation.

William H. Danforth, former chairman of the board and founder of Ralston Purina, instituted the award in 1936. The program was designed to give young people on the brink of graduation an insight into the business world and encourage them to make the most of their capabilities.

The young people, selected by deans of their schools and considered by their college faculties to be the leading students in their fields, spent two weeks in St. Louis touring institutions which fit their interests. Then the group spent two weeks at a leadership training program camp in Miniwance, Mich.

TOURING BARNES’ Bacteriology Laboratory is one of four groups of college seniors who were in St. Louis July 17-30 as recipients of the Danforth Award in home economics. The girls represented the 50 states, Puerto Rico and Canada. Here, Bernice Fields, assistant chief technician, tells them about the lab’s functions.

SHOWING GIRLS ON THE DANFORTH TOUR Barnes’ dietary department is Miss Jean McDaniels, dietetic intern. Here they stop to examine a cart of fruit juices which will be served to patients. Left to right: Judy Degerman, California; Cora Eggleston, Kansas; Shirley Rotthfink, Minnesota; Debbie Baldwin, Michigan.

RELAXING OVER LUNCH in the cafeteria, members of the Danforth Tour are from left to right: Ollie Gray, Climson University; Margo McGuigan, Dietetic Intern, R. Foster Rhodes, University of Georgia; Kenneth C. Matthews, Virginia Poly Tech Institute. At right: Taking a man-size bite of watermelon is Kenneth Boote of Iowa State University while Candystriper Sharon Craig watches.

IN CENTRAL SERVICE the Danforth girls examine surgical gloves which are sorted here for tears and defects. Lloyd Robinson, assistant supervisor, explains how the gloves are sterilized to (left to right) Nitza Rivera, Puerto Rico; Patricia Kiefer, North Dakota; Sarah Hunt, Mississippi; Milver Abbott, central service aide, works at left.
Camping in Yellowstone . . .

Mrs. Marion Langer, Staff Development, at a campsite in Yellowstone National Park called Grant’s Village. She and her husband spent four days camping in the park, and four days driving.

Picnic in the Park . . .

Mrs. Willie Mae Copher, chief technician in Central Service, visits with her great grandchildren, the Shank’s brothers. They are (left to right) Quentin, Aaron, Derick, Charles, Jr., and Michael . . June 15.

VACATION ALBUM

Family Reunion . . .

With her brother at his home in Genesee, Idaho, is Mrs. Sarah Young, chief technician in Central Service. Her brother is Wilburn England. The family attended a World War One Veterans Reunion July 1 in Lewiston, Idaho.

Historic St. Augustine . . .

Riding in a horse and buggy in St. Augustine, Fla., is Miss Patricia Wendl, medical dictaphone operator in Medical Records. She is seated on the front seat (right) next to the driver.

Just Outside Kremlin Wall . . .

Chaplain and Mrs. George A. Bowles stand on Red Square in front of St. Basil’s Russian Orthodox Church in Moscow. They were behind the Iron Curtain seven days during their trip, and even saw Premier Kosygin.
At Williamsburg, Va.

Miss Pat Caldwell (left), secretary to Mrs. Josephine Hackett, stops to observe how flax was spun into thread in the early days of our country. The setting was Williamsburg, Va., one of many historic stops she made during her visit to the East Coast.

With Her Soldier . . .

At Dr. Gordon in Augusta, Ga., Mrs. Len George, controller's office, visits her son Richard who is in the Army Signal Corps there.

Hiking Through the Woods . . .

David Blackwell, chief technologist in radiology, hikes through the woods with 15 boy scouts he led at camp this summer. This is the fifth year he has served as a camp leader.

Conventionaling in Detroit . . .

Mrs. Harriolte Johnson, chief technician in Central Service, attended the Seventh Day Adventist general convention June 20-28 in Detroit. Here she sits outside Cobo Hall where the meetings were held.

Sailing in Michigan . . .

At Torch Lake, Mich., Miss Nancy Craig, assistant director, enjoyed being one of a crew of four who sailed these 28-foot boats. She also went swimming, fishing, water skiing and played golf and tennis...July 4-15.

On the Way Home . . .

Miss Carmen Wright, anesthesia supervisor, catches some shut-eye while driving home from Albuquerque, N.M., where she visited some of her family.
Know Your Nursing Divisions

7100 QUEENY TOWER

Seventy-one hundred, Queeny Tower is a private surgical division. The patient capacity is twenty-three with six semi-private rooms, nine private rooms, and two suites.

The majority of patients are admitted to 7100 for surgery. The division has orthopedic, plastic, G. U. Gyn, and general surgery patients.

The floor is compact and well-equipped for emergencies and daily care. There are facilities for a lab in conjunction with the treatment room. All of the rooms have wall suction and oxygen.

The team nursing plan and daily conferences are used to promote comprehensive care and to help the staff utilize time and nursing abilities.

The nursing staff on 7100 is: Head nurse, Mrs. R. Connelly; staff nurses, Mrs. R. Berg, Miss J. Buchler, Miss M. Colyer, Miss A. Dennison; licensed practical nurses, Mrs. B. Allen, Mrs. C. Arrington, Mrs. C. Cavin, Mrs. J. Thomas; nurse assistants, Mrs. E. Boone, Mrs. O. Crape, Mrs. D. Jackson, Mrs. B. Johnson, Mrs. S. Mitchell, Mrs. L. Wesley, Mrs. E. Williams; service manager, Mrs. J. Laurence; ward clerks, Mrs. G. Andrews, Mrs. A. McFadden, Mrs. P. Smith, Mrs. P. Uley.

600 RENARD

This unit is designed and staffed to provide intensive care for the acutely ill psychiatric patient. The unit also serves as a screening division; patients are admitted, observed, treatment initiated and then transferred to other divisions in Renard as their condition warrants. Emotionally disturbed patients from divisions throughout the hospital may be boarded on this unit for 24 to 48 hours. At the end of this time they are either returned to their former unit or transferred into 600 Renard.

Every measure is used on 600 to offer maximum security to the patient during the acute phase of his illness. The architecture and furnishings are such that will not pre-dispose to injury. Windows are protected by heavy screens which are operated with keys. Light switches are also key-operated. The nurses' station is enclosed with thick non-breakable glass. The patients' rooms, as well as the two day rooms have a minimum amount of furniture. All doors, except those to the patients' rooms, are kept locked at all times. Only authorized personnel and visitors are allowed to enter the unit. All gifts and packages must be left at the nurses' station. Even though most of the patients are ambulatory, they are supervised in all of their activities of daily living. Frequent rounds are made by staff during the sleeping hours.

Group activities play an important role in the patient's recovery. Patients participate in many off-the-floor activities. Occupational and recreational facilities are available on the first floor of the building. A large enclosed roof is located on the eighth floor. Frequent trips, walks, roof programs, ceramics, weaving and needle pointing are just a few of the diversional activities available.

The unit has a bed capacity of 25 and accommodates both private and staff-care patients.

The nursing staff on 600 Renard is: Head nurse, Mrs. A. Luckett; staff nurses, Miss C. Boyd, Mrs. S. Pilke, Miss C. Thomas, Miss J. Wilson; licensed practical nurses, Mrs. C. Holliday, Mrs. E. Rothschild; Psych. Tech. - licensed practical nurses, Mrs. B. Combs, Mrs. E. Reeves, Mrs. B. Wilford; nurse assistants, Mrs. R. Anderson, Mrs. P. Parson, Mrs. E. Schooley; Psych. Tech. - nurse assistants, Mrs. W. Allen, Mr. S. Bradford, Mr. C. Dudley, Mr. L. Farmer, Mr. F. Freeman, Mr. R. Hernandez, Mr. F. Mitchell, Mr. J. Taylor, Mr. B. Thompson; ward clerks, Miss E. Blue, Miss R. McCallum.

Inservice Programs Open to All Employees

The inservice programs sponsored by Staff Development are now open to all hospital personnel who would like to attend. For time and place of these monthly meetings, phone Ext. 3033.

Edward Thurman, safety and security coordinator, will be the guest speaker in September. October's topic will be "Legal Aspects of Nursing" with Donald Horsh, associate director, leading the program.

New Program for Nurse Assistants

As part of the orientation program for new nurse assistants at Barnes, an 8-hour instruction course is being presented. The new program began on July 11.

Won't You Lend

Mrs. Charlie Collins, L.P.N., on 6 McMillan, recently had her home and belongings completely wiped out by a fire. The entire family was able to escape without injury, but they must now attempt to put together a new home from scratch. This is a very expensive undertaking, especially since there are five children. There are two boys ages 7 and 3, and three girls 12, 10 and 5 years old.

The Red Cross was able to find an apartment for them, but could provide no further assistance. Nursing Service asks that you look through your possessions for clothing, furniture, dishes, cooking utensils, silverware, bedding, etc., that are usable, and contact Mrs. Collins at PA 6-4594.

Nursing Announces Recent Promotions

Mrs. Sharon Kendall, 1965 Hillcrest School of Nursing graduate has been promoted to assistant head nurse on 3 Barnard.

Miss Rose Dandurand, a 1959 graduate of the Hartford School of nursing, has been promoted to the position of assistant head nurse on 4 Wohl.

454 Nurses Are Graduated (From Page 1)

class to Donald J. Horsh, associate director of Barnes, who presented their diplomas, with the assistance of Mrs. Jane B. McCray, Senior Class sponsor.

Miss McMurtry gave each graduate her school pin, and Mrs. Dolores Monrotus, alumnae president, presented each girl with a red rose from the Barnes Alumnae.

After the awards were announced, the Rev. John M. Hayes gave benediction.

Other members of the graduating class are: Miss Nacey Kay Aldrich, Mrs. Patricia Kirk Audrain, Miss Carol Ann Au-gustine, Miss Ann Elaine Bailey, Miss Kathleen Sue Bell, Miss Marianne Bogel, Miss Susan D. Boyd, Miss Athena Marie Cole, Miss Kathleen Alice Collins, Miss Betty Jean Corvey, Miss Margaret May Cottingham, Miss Susan Kaye Crandall, Miss Linda Lucille Davis, Mrs. Sharon Kellison Delaioye, Miss Hilda Patricia Dowling, Miss Jett Ellen Durbin, Miss Virginia Sue Egbert, Mrs. Diana Blackburn Elliott, Miss Beverly Joan Erni, Miss Joy Louise Goodin, Miss Lynn Emily Haltenhof, Miss Mary Ann Hannemann, Miss Charlyle Christine Hinton, Miss Joyce Anne Howard, Miss Elizabeth Jane Hoyt, Miss Carita Marie Huck.

Miss Joyce Ann Johnson, Miss Deanna Lee Jones, Mrs. Peggy Weaver LaBrot, Miss Sue Ellen Lentz, Miss Barbara Ellen Lenz, Miss Judith Kathryn Mundwiller, Miss Phyllis Marie Pile, Miss Patricia Harle Potter, Miss Carole Angelynn Schrumf, Miss Ruth Britannia Siler, Miss Ruth Ada Smith, Miss Shirlie Elaine Smith, Miss Frances Lauren Spears, Miss Lee Catherine St. John, Miss Alice Lorraine Stites, Miss Linda Louise Summerlot, Miss Jayne Kaye Swain, Miss Roswena Carol Troxel, Miss Ann DeMott Wisk, and Miss Martha Elizabeth Wolfe.
English Nurse Spends 4 Days Here

Main Interest in ENT, Personnel Development

The United States is not the only country where there is a nursing shortage. England has trouble finding enough nurses, too, according to the report of Miss Edwina Fraser, S.R.N. (State Registered Nurse) who visited Barnes Hospital Aug. 8-12. Barnes was one of four U. S. hospitals on Miss Fraser's itinerary, as she made a study tour of institutions known for outstanding ear, nose and throat treatment.

Miss Fraser is in charge of the "operating theatre" of the Royal National Throat, Nose and Ear Hospital in London, England. Although she came to the U. S. primarily to study techniques used in operating rooms specializing in ENT procedures, Miss Fraser also became quite interested in personnel development programs in effect at Barnes.

Other Aspects

"I came for one purpose, then found so many other aspects to learn about as well," she said. Miss Fraser spent a week in the Los Angeles Medical Center, and from Barnes went to Cleveland University Hospitals in Cleveland, O. She will then be visiting St. Vincent's Hospital in New York for a week before returning to England.

Supervisory nurses in England are called "nursing sisters," Miss Fraser says. It is not a religious title, as it would be in the U. S. The director of

POST-OPERATIVE CARE for ear, nose and throat patients is the primary interest of Miss Edwina Fraser, shown above at left, a nurse from England who visited at Barnes for a week in August. Miss Fraser is on a study tour of four leading U. S. hospitals. At right is Miss Donna McKinley, R.N., who is showing Miss Fraser some of the equipment in the intensive care unit on McMillan Hospital's sixth floor. nursing is called the "matron." It is impossible to compare the English pay scale with U. S. wages, Miss Fraser pointed out, because of the difference in living costs. "It is also difficult to estimate what nurses make in England. However, I could say that most staff nurses there make under 1,000 pounds each year." (Under $2,600, in U. S. currency.)

Nurses' Uniforms

Instead of the color white associated with nurses in this country, English nurses wear a dark color, and the uniform will be the same for every nurse at the same hospital. Royal blue or gray are the most common colors, and always long-sleeved. The caps carry the stripe or ornament indicating the hospital at which the nurse is currently working, not the emblem of the school from which she graduated. However, the English nurse will wear the badge of the school where she attended.

Miss Fraser has had midwifery training. However, she has not practiced in this field for some time, so would have to take a refresher course before delivering babies. To be accredited, a nurse must make a specified number of deliveries each year. However, nurses often deliver at many births in England.

Dr. Dumonceaux, formerly a psychiatrist resident at Barnes, 1963-66, received an appoint- ment as a full-time medical staff member of St. Vincent's Hospital in Normandy. Dr. Dumonceaux will co-ordinate clinical, medical and educational programs at the hospital.

Dr. & Mrs. David Portman
Mr. & Mrs. Simon Edison (Anniversary)
Mr. & Mrs. John Robinson
Mrs. R. P. Denison
Polly Blaha
Miss Frances Edwina Fraser, S.R.N.
(April 8-12, 1966)
(April 14-21, 1966)
(April 25-30, 1966)
(April 30-May 7, 1966)
(May 1-7, 1966)
(May 8-14, 1966)
(May 15-21, 1966)
(May 22-28, 1966)
(May 29-June 11, 1966)
(May 24-June 2, 1966)
(May 25-30, 1966)
(April 8-12, 1966)}
Pediatrics X-Ray Floor Redecorated

AN OPEN HOUSE was held in August to display the newly redecorated pediatric area in the Mallinckrodt Institute of Radiology. The waiting room has been redecorated with a garden motif, featuring the mural of a willow tree, lattice work partitions and patio furniture. Above, two nurses from Children’s Hospital are served tea by Mrs. Juan Taveras, at right, and her daughter, Louisa, at left. (Dr. Juan Taveras is chief radiologist at Mallinckrodt.) The nurses, seated, are Laurie Reninga, left, and Ruth Schantz. X-ray rooms in the Mallinckrodt pediatric area have been repainted in gay colors (many with several colors in the same room). Gaily grinning clowns decorate the corridor walls.

Renard Patients Enjoy Panel Show

A panel show, “To Tell the Truth,” based on the television program, was held for patients at Renard Hospital the evening of August 3. Panelists were Renard patients and the moderator was Merle Aukamp, director of the recreation department.

Special guests invited to stump the panelists were Miss Becky Wells Jones, reigning Veiled Prophet Queen; Mike Anton, assistant plant manager at Stanley Photo; Mike Friedman, salesman of billiard tables and above-the-ground swimming pools, and Mrs. Patty Seward, wife of Renard recreation leader, Barry Seward.

Barnes Hospital Bulletin

The Barnes Hospital Bulletin is one of four local house organs chosen to represent the Industrial Press Association of Greater St. Louis in a district contest.

Two Barnes Hospital dietetic interns, Miss Mary B. Nichols and Mrs. Nancy Rogers Palmer, have been named as recipients of national awards for essays on dietetics. Given under the auspices of the American Dietetic Association, the awards, made by the Sunkist Growers Association, will be presented at the association’s annual meeting in Boston.

Miss Nichols’ winning essay was on “Sucrose Intolerance,” and was the case study of a 3-month-old child whose system lacked an enzyme used to metabolize sugar. Miss Nichols, a native of Odessa, Texas, is a graduate of North Texas State University in Denton, Texas.

“Diabetes Mellitus” was the topic of Mrs. Palmer’s essay. It was the case history of a diabetic on a special diet. Mrs. Palmer is from Rogersville, Mo., and was graduated from Southwest Missouri State College at Springfield.

Both young women will complete their year as dietetic interns at Barnes late this month. Miss Nichols will remain on the Barnes staff as an assistant administrative dietitian. Mrs. Palmer will become a therapeutic dietitian at a hospital in Ann Arbor, Mich.

Patient Celebrates 26th Birthday

A naval officer who recently returned from the Vietnam area had a birthday at Barnes Hospital on July 30. A birthday in the hospital never is quite the same as one celebrated in a more festive atmosphere, but six dispatch messengers helped Lt. (J.G.) Richard Baldwin feel a little more at home.

Lt. Baldwin, who is a patient on the third floor of Wohl Hospital, has learned to know many of the dispatch messengers, as he made trips to and from x-ray during the nearly three months he has been at Barnes.

“We’ve sort of adopted him, he’s such a nice person,” said Sharon Goins, dispatch messenger. “When the word got around that he was to celebrate a birthday on July 30, we wanted to help make it more pleasant.”

As they ran their errands on the day before Lt. Baldwin’s birthday, the messengers stopped in his room to leave cards they had purchased for him. “It was a nice surprise,” said Lt. Baldwin.

The naval officer was 26 on his birthday. He was assigned to the USS Maury, AGS, a special ship charting the Vietnamese waters, until early June when he became ill and had to return to the U.S. “The Maury’s assignment is to plumb the depths of the waters near Vietnam and make accurate charts,” Lt. Baldwin said. “The harbors there have not been charted since 1800, and those records were not too accurate.”