



Labrador-Grenfell
Health

Along the Coast to Labrador

Corporate Headquarters: Happy Valley-Goose Bay, Newfoundland and Labrador, Canada A0P 1C0

Labrador-Grenfell Health Launches Infant Hearing Program



The Canadian Hard of Hearing Association – Newfoundland and Labrador (CHHA-NL) makes a donation toward the purchase of an Otoacoustic Screening Device to test the hearing of newborn infants in the Labrador-Grenfell region (St. Anthony and area). Present for the donation include (l-r): Leon Mills, Executive Director (CHHA-NL); Alison Day, Coordinator of Rural Outreach Services (CHHA-NL) Dr. K. Aravind, Pediatrician and Dr. Kweku Dankwa, Associate VP Medical Services.

On Friday, September 21, 2007 Labrador-Grenfell Health launched its first Infant Hearing Program at Curtis Memorial Hospital in St. Anthony. The launch was held in conjunction with the official donation of a Distortion Product Otoacoustic Emission (DPOAE) by the Canadian Hard of Hearing Association.

The Infant Hearing Program was created to find the approximately four to six in 1000 infants that are born deaf or hard of hearing as early as possible, and to give them the help they need so they can have the best possible start in life. Newborns are screened at birth by a staff person trained to use the DPOAE, a safe and reliable piece of equipment. The entire test takes just a few minutes and the results are immediate, with no harmful risk to the infant. The organization is very thankful to the CHHA for donating this new piece of equipment which enables us to offer this new exciting program.

What's Inside?

Scholarship Winners	2
Accreditation Award	3
Thank You	4
LabQuest	5
From the Homes	6
Professional Development	8
Health Promotion	10
Around the Region	12
Trivia	12
Focus on Staff	15
Retirements	16
Obituaries	18
Comings and Goings	19
From the Past	20



Demonstrating the new Otoacoustic Screening Device with baby boy Flynn are (l-r): Dr. Hayder Ridha, Dr. Padma Guntamukkala, Junior Flynn, Colleen O'Brien and Dr. K. Aravind.

SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED

Labrador-Grenfell Health is pleased to announce its scholarship awards for 2007-08. Krista Baker of Labrador City is the recipient of the Dr. & Mrs. Gordon W. Thomas Scholarship of \$3,000. Brian Davis of St. Anthony and Bailey White of Happy Valley - Goose Bay are the recipients of the Grimes/Weld Scholarships of \$2,000 each.

Krista graduated from Labrador City Collegiate in Labrador City in June, 1996 and from Memorial University of Newfoundland in St. John's with a Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science in 2003. She then enrolled in a Master of Arts Program in Political Science at the Memorial University of Newfoundland School of Graduate Studies. In September, 2006, she was accepted into the Doctor of Medicine Program at Memorial University of Newfoundland and she is now entering her second year in that program. She is also hoping to complete the requirements for her Master of Arts Program in 2008.

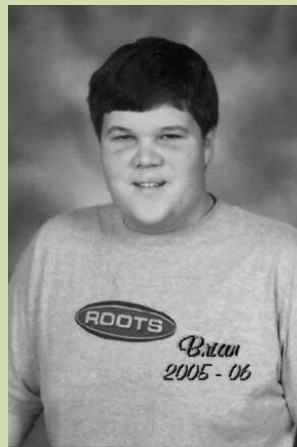
Brian graduated from Harriot Curtis Collegiate in St. Anthony in June, 2006. He has completed one year of studies at the College of the North Atlantic in St. Anthony. He is continuing his studies in the Mechanical Engineering Program at the College of the North Atlantic in St. John's.

Bailey graduated from Mealy Mountain Collegiate in Happy Valley - Goose Bay in June, 2006. She has completed one year of studies at St. Thomas University in Fredericton, New Brunswick and is working towards a Bachelor of Arts. She is hoping to pursue a career in journalism.

The Dr. & Mrs. Gordon W. Thomas Scholarship is awarded annually to a student who is studying nursing, medicine or dentistry. Grimes/Weld Scholarships are awarded annually in memory of Nurse Joy Grimes and Dr. Elizabeth Weld, who died tragically in 1984 while serving the people of Northern Newfoundland and Labrador.



Krista Baker



Brian Davis



Bailey White

FOUNDATION UPDATE

Credit Union Donation - Labrador West

The Grenfell Foundation extends sincere thanks to the Newfoundland and Labrador Credit Union (NLCU), Labrador West Branch, for its recent donation of \$1000.



On hand for the presentation were (l-r): Patsy Ralph, Foundation Coordinator; Ozette Simpson, Chief Operating Officer (West); Jason Mitchelmore, NLCU Employee and Yvonne Parsons, Manager NLCU.

Labrador-Grenfell Health Receives Accreditation

Labrador-Grenfell Health participated in its first full Accreditation Survey as a new region in May 2007. Six surveyors from the Canadian Council on Health Services Accreditation (CCHSA) conducted the survey from May 6 to 11 2007, with visits to the following sites: Labrador Health Center, Charles S. Curtis Memorial Hospital, Captain William Jackman Memorial Hospital, Paddon Memorial Home, John M. Gray Center, Mani Ashini Health Center, Nain Community Clinic, the CYFS district office in Happy Valley – Goose Bay and the CYFS Nain office.

The Accreditation surveyors interviewed all 12 Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) teams, conducted staff focus groups and community partners focus groups, talked with residents in long term care, and with our clients, through focus groups and individual interviews.

The CCHSA Accreditation Report was received in July, indicating a decision of “Accreditation with Report and Focused Visit”. Requirements for the report and focused visit are as follows:



Chief Operating Officer Ozette Simpson proudly displays the celebration cake at the Accreditation Tea held at the Captain William Jackman Memorial Hospital, as her co-workers look on.



Continuous Quality Improvement Team members (l-r): Leaton Johnson, Beverly Pittman, Blenda Dredge and Maurice Heath cut the cake at the Accreditation Tea held at the Charles S. Curtis Memorial Hospital.

Report – due January 2008

1. Continue to implement the medication reconciliation initiative throughout the region.
2. Include roles, responsibilities, and accountabilities for patient safety in job descriptions and performance appraisals.
3. Implement the process for follow up of adverse events.
4. Implement the policy for “Disclosure of Adverse Events”.
5. Develop patient safety education material and deliver annual sessions to staff.
6. Develop and implement a plan to assess patient safety issues and make improvements.
7. Work with the Board to develop a written patient safety strategy/goal.
8. Remove concentrated electrolytes from the patient care units.
9. Review and ensure the effectiveness of training on infusion pumps.

Focus Visit – June 2008

1. Conduct a regional review related to security in the work environment.
2. Develop and implement a risk management plan across the region.
3. Develop a regional disaster plan and conduct regular annual exercises.
4. Ensure that staff performance evaluations are completed annually.
5. Develop an information management plan.
6. Disseminate education on the recently developed consent policy.
7. Move the region to a consistent medication dispensation system.

Labrador-Grenfell Health is very pleased to have acquired Accreditation status and will continue to work on the recommendations for improvement as part of its ongoing commitment to providing quality care and services in our communities.



Norma Forsey, Regional Director of Patient Safety / Quality displays the Accreditation Award and cuts the cake at the celebrations held at the Labrador Health Centre.

SAYING "THANK YOU"

Charles S. Curtis Memorial Hospital

Labrador-Grenfell Health extends sincere thanks to the Patey family of St. Anthony Bight, for their recent donation of a TV/DVD unit to the Maternal Child Health Unit of the Charles S. Curtis Memorial Hospital. Funds for the TV/DVD were raised through a barbecue held this summer at Olivia's Greenhouse.



On hand for the presentation were (l-r): Dr. Padma Guntamukkala, Pediatrician; Maddison Patey; Barbara Molgaard Blake, Chief Operating Officer; Chris Patey, Support Services Manager; Makenna Patey; Olivia Patey and Billy Patey.

Thanks are also extended to:

- Dr. Chris Patey and Dr. Daneile O'Dea, who donated a VCR to the Maternal Child Health Unit.
- The Coles family, for reframing a Linda Coles painting, for the Medical/Surgical Unit, in memory of their father, Mr. Harris Coles.
- Roxanne Mitchelmore, who donated a DVD player to the Palliative Care Unit.

Captain William Jackman Memorial Hospital

Labrador-Grenfell Health extends sincere thanks to the Ladies Division of the Tamarack Golf Club in Labrador City. Club members generously donated \$1645, raised through their annual FORE the Cure Golf Tournament. Funds will be used towards the purchase of equipment for the Oncology Suite at the Captain William Jackman Memorial Hospital.



Eleanor Fowler, Site Manager, Nursing, accepts a donation from Jodi Peckham of the Ladies Division of the Tamarack Golf Club.

BIG BIKE FOR HEART AND STROKE TRAVELS TO NORTHERN PENINSULA

On September 6 and 7, 2007, Labrador-Grenfell Health employees in St. Anthony and Flower's Cove joined their fellow community members in riding the "Big Bike for Heart and Stroke". In St. Anthony, the Chest Thumpers raised over \$1200 for this worthy cause. Despite the very rainy weather, two rides were held in Flower's Cove, with the Community Riders and Cardiac Cyclists raising a total of \$7890. Special thanks are extended to the organizers, participants and supporters of these events.



The Chest Thumpers pose before the Big Bike Ride in St. Anthony.



Riders in Flower's Cove donned their wind and rain suits to support this very worthwhile cause.

LABQUEST 2007

During the week of August 10 - 17, thirteen high school students from Northern Newfoundland and Labrador attended the third annual LabQuest program held at the Labrador Health Centre in Happy Valley - Goose Bay. LabQuest is a long-term recruitment initiative whereby students participate in presentations with health care professionals and have an opportunity to job shadow various disciplines.

Upon completion of the program, some of the students did change their minds regarding their career of choice, indicating interest in Medical Specialties, Pharmacy, Family Medicine, Midwifery and Paramedicine. It takes a great deal of time and effort to organize and deliver the LabQuest program. Special thanks go to all Labrador-Grenfell Health staff who participated in the program. The LabQuest program is also made possible by various partners, such as the Labrador Metis Nation, Department of Health – Nunatsiavut Government, the College of the North Atlantic and other individuals that dedicate their time each year.

Sam Mansfield, Regional Director of Human Resources



LabQuest participants display their research projects, prepared as a part of their LabQuest experience (l-r): Aimee Hopkins (Englee), Mary Beaulac (Happy Valley – Goose Bay), Meghan O'Brien (L'anse au Loup), Jessica Dawe (Nain), Bianca Coles (Green Island Brook), Kathryn O'Reilly (St. Anthony), Tanya Vincent (Hopedale), Julie Flowers (Rigolet), Katie Rumbolt (St. Anthony), Krista Williams (Cartwright) and Francine Linstead (L'anse au Loup). Missing from photo is Rebecca Watts, North West River.

On a Mission for Healthy Communities

Labrador-Grenfell Health is Going Smoke-Free in January 2008

Our vision for Labrador-Grenfell Health is of healthy people, living in healthy communities. Smoking and breathing second-hand smoke are the leading causes of many illnesses. As a health care provider, Labrador-Grenfell Health has an obligation to the community to address this issue, and ensure a healthy environment for our clients, visitors and employees.

We are revising our policies to become a totally smoke-free environment. In January, 2008, smoking on our grounds will be eliminated to protect clients, visitors and employees from the negative effects of second-hand smoke. This includes all facilities and property including the interior, exterior grounds and parking areas, including vehicles (corporate and private vehicles on the premises).

We realize that this policy may be difficult for people who smoke, and we are doing our best to make resources available to assist with this transition. We are currently working on supports for patients who smoke, including information, counseling and nicotine replacement therapies. We are committed to improving the health of our community. Your cooperation with our smoke-free policy is appreciated.



FROM THE HOMES

John M. Gray Centre, St. Anthony

Heather Bromley, Recreation Therapist

Newfie Mug-up

Residents recently enjoyed a traditional Newfoundland experience consisting of roasted capelin, molasses bread, and tea, thanks to a contribution from community members, Pierce Cull and Ron Cull. The residents were delighted with the food, as they tapped their feet and clapped their hands to the sound of traditional Newfoundland music by Alphonsus Reardon and Ron Cull.



Enjoying the Newfie Mug-up are (l-r): Janie Decker, Grace Hillier, Gordon Alyward, Clayton Simms and Bertha Simms.

Hawaiian Party

Residents were excited to experience their first ever fun filled Hawaiian Theme Party, held in August. The Recreation Room was decorated with colorful Hawaiian palm trees, tropical fruits and birds, along with colorful patio furniture, to create a festive look for the event. The residents and staff were dressed in Hawaiian style to celebrate the occasion and Hawaiian music set the atmosphere for a fun filled afternoon of dancing, fancy drinks and exotic fruit, along with coconut/banana cream pie. A great time was enjoyed by all.



Residents (l-r): Beatrice Simms, Ruby Elms, and Albert Rumbolt were among those in the Hawaiian spirit.

Residents visit the Grenfell Interpretation Centre

Residents of the John M. Gray Centre recently spent an afternoon at the Grenfell Interpretation Centre, to experience the life and times of Doctor Grenfell. Residents enjoyed a movie and toured the Interpretation Centre, to learn about Dr. Grenfell's legacy and contributions.



Touring the Grenfell Interpretation Centre were (front, l-r) Gordon Alyward, Clayton Simms, Boyd Pilgrim and Jane Williams; (back, l-r): Jessica Pilgrim (Recreation Student), Henry Genge and Heather Bromley, Recreation Therapist.

A Visit from Local Performers

Many local performers share their time and talents to provide traditional Newfoundland music at special events held at the John M. Gray Centre.



Shown here at a recent function are volunteers (l-r): John Sexton, Jerry Kean and Ron Cull.

FROM THE HOMES

John M. Gray Centre

Social Held for Nursing Students

Residents and staff of the John M. Gray Centre were delighted to hold an afternoon social on August 23, 2007 to recognize the hard work and assistance of the nursing students throughout the summer months. Special thanks to the students for their tremendous support. Best wishes and good luck for a successful school year and we hope to see you all again next year.



Summer Nursing students at the John M. Gray Centre (l-r): Samantha Ricks, Michelle Dean, Chrisoula Budgell, Joanne Hancock and Samantha Keats.

Harry L. Paddon Memorial Home, Happy Valley – Goose Bay

Steven Janes, Recreation Therapist

Residents and Staff walk for Alzheimers

The annual Alzheimer's Walk was held in Happy Valley - Goose Bay this August, with several residents and staff of the Paddon Memorial Home setting off on a trek to the Town Hall. With refreshments and a snack provided by the Town, and cooperation from the weather, the afternoon was an enjoyable one for all involved. Money raised was sent to the Alzheimer's Society of Newfoundland and Labrador.

Walking in aid of Alzheimer's awareness and research were (front, l-r): Lorraine Saunders, Chris Pardy, Verna Eastman, Daphne Mesher and Hazel Michelin; (back, l-r): Catriona Horwood, Amy Warren, Sally Penney, Fiona Dyson, Dorothy Fequet, Myrtle White, Steven Janes and Karen Gillard.



Long Term Care Unit, Labrador South Health Centre, Forteau

Bonnie Davis, Clerical Staff

Annual Family Barbeque

Residents, families and staff recently gathered for the annual barbecue at the Long Term Care Unit at the Labrador South Health Centre. Shown here are some of the attendees, who thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to come together for this special event.



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Patient Care Inquiry (PCI) Training Held in Port Hope Simpson



Participating in the PCI training session in Port Hope Simpson were (l-r): Wendy Woodford (Clinical Informatics Specialist, St. Anthony), Victoria Paul (Regional Nurse II, St. Lewis), Lana Cook (Casual Regional Nurse, Mary's Harbour), Claudine Foster (Regional Nurse II, Port Hope Simpson), Marilyn Kippenhuck (Regional Nurse II, Charlottetown) and Donnie Sampson (Clinical Coordinator - South).

On August 22, 2007, a Patient Care Inquiry training session was held in Port Hope Simpson. Nurses from the three surrounding clinics joined their colleagues in Port Hope Simpson for this training, and are now able to train future nurses. Patient Care Inquiry (PCI) is a Meditech module which enables clinicians to view diagnostic imaging reports and laboratory results as soon as they are reported, instead of having to wait for internal mail or faxed reports. Patient demographics are also viewed in PCI. The northern region of Labrador-Grenfell Health has been using PCI for numerous years. The southern part of the health authority has been introducing PCI since March, 2007.

Fit Testing Continues in Labrador West

A Fit Testing session was offered at the Captain William Jackman Memorial Hospital on August 15, 2007. During this session, staff were fitted for an N95 mask. A respirator (N95) is a personal protective device designed to help reduce the exposure to certain airborne contaminants. When employees are properly fit tested, respirators help reduce leaks where contaminants may enter. There are three sizes of N95 masks. Staff are encouraged to have fit testing done to ensure the correct size mask is available for their protection.



Jill McLean (left), Food Service Worker at the Captain William Jackman Memorial Hospital, undergoes Fit Testing with Joanne Lundrigan, RN, Nursing Supervisor.

ACLS Course Held at the Nain Community Clinic

Six Regional Nurses gathered in Nain from September 26-28, 2007, to become trained in Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS). The intensive course challenged participants both mentally and physically. During part of the course, Nain staff were able to videoconference with Emergency Room physicians during a mock code, which would be routine practice in a real life incident. The videoconferencing unit is used frequently in Nain to consult with physicians on client care. All the team practice with our fictitious patient prepared us for the mega code on the final day. In the moments after we learned that we had all passed, the Emergency Room in Nain was filled with excitement, happiness and high fives.

This course offered more than just knowledge and skills about Advanced Cardiac Life Support – it also taught us a lot about teamwork. The clinic supper meal of hot roast beef with vegetables and dessert prepared by Dr. Michael Jong was an opportunity to share among friends. Special thanks to Pat Crotty for looking after client care during this course, to Larry Powell and Dr. Edith Abu Said for your support and assistance and to Dr. Jong, for bringing this essential training to the coast.



Among the ACLS participants in Nain were (l-r): Julie MacIsaac, Maggie Webb, Michael Noble and Dorothy Bragg.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Fall Symposium at the Charles S. Curtis Memorial Hospital



Shown here at the symposium are (l-r): Dr. Alexandra Easson, Assistant Professor of Surgery at the University of Toronto, Dr. Massey Beveridge, Surgeon at the Charles S. Curtis Memorial Hospital (event organizer) and Dr. Cathy Popadiuk, Gynecological Oncologist at Memorial University's Division of Women's Health.

The annual fall symposium was held at the Charles S. Curtis Memorial Hospital on October 3 and 4, 2007. This year's event, entitled *International Grenfell Symposium 2007: Rural Health in the 21st Century* featured special invited guest speakers, including faculty from Ottawa, the University of Toronto and Memorial University.

This annual CME event is designed to appeal to family physicians and specialists, medical students, nurses and allied health professionals. This year's symposium was designed to update participants' knowledge of a broad range of issues in general practice, pediatrics, gynecology and surgery, and included expert faculty presentations on the latest advances in the management of common problems from breast lumps to dyspepsia, from keeping your patients off dialysis to keeping practitioners out of court. The lively small group practical learning sessions allowed for plenty of interactivity and the opportunity to ask visiting faculty questions about how to manage their patients.

In addition to our local staff presenters, it was a great pleasure to have Dr. Popadiuk from St. John's, Dr. Easson from Toronto and Drs. Tiong and Todd from Ottawa. Our first time visitors enjoyed not only the conference, but also their first experience of Newfoundland hospitality. The conference evaluations were positive and all agreed that the symposium was worthwhile and should be repeated next year. Finally, I would like to express my appreciation to all who worked to make this possible, especially to Karen Carroll in Dr. Dankwa's office, and to the sponsors of this year's Symposium - Merck Frosst, Consumers St. Anthony and Flower's Cove Pharmachoice, Shopper's Choice Pharmacy, Astra Zeneca, Mr. Barry Burke, Nutricia North America and Labrador-Grenfell Health.

Dr. Massey Beveridge, Fellow in Community General Surgery

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Dear Sir/Madam,

Having worked in St. Anthony, from September 1977 until January 1981, I appreciate receiving your quarterly publication of *Along the Coast to Labrador*. It brings many fond memories of our wonderful stay on the Northern Peninsula where we met many wonderful people who have remained our cherished friends.

It is with a saddened heart that I ask you to remove Mrs. Martin's name from my address label, in that, she passed away on February 14th, 2007 (Valentine's Day) after a courageous battle with cancer.

Please keep you good work up and continue forwarding your publication to me. Thank you.

Sincerely, Wilson G. Martin

Dear Editor,

In November 2007 it will be 60 years since the SS Langleecrag piled up on the inhospitable rocks of Great Sacred Island. I was a junior officer on the ship when this happened at 5 a.m. and some five hours after I had come off watch. (Hence – not responsible!) We lost two men, spent five days on the Island before being rescued and taken to St. Anthony.

The people of your small town were marvelous and looked after us extremely well under the umbrella of the Grenfell Mission. I was billeted in the Orphanage, together with an engineer officer plus the majority of the crew and I recall an almost holiday camp atmosphere. In fact, we put on a stage show to say "thank you" to the local population but I think it was a pretty awful performance. The 41 extra mouths to feed at the beginning of winter must have created great difficulties for the small isolated community of St. Anthony. I will always be grateful.

I eventually left a sea-going career and became a Trinity House pilot for the Port of Southampton for 31 years. Lots of "incidents", but none to match the above.

My wife and I visited St. Anthony 10 years ago and I was able to go out and view the remains of the wreck. But – shock/horror – traffic lights, motels, mini-markets, roads = civilization. But the modern hospital must be the greatest asset for the town. Many thanks for keeping me in touch via the bulletin.

With best wishes,
Jack Wylie

P.S. Anybody still around who remembers the events of November 1947?

HEALTH PROMOTION

World Breastfeeding Week 2007

“Breastfeeding first — breastfeeding within one hour of birth” was the theme for this year’s World Breastfeeding Week, celebrated in Canada from October 1-7, 2007. The theme promoted the idea that the initiation of breastfeeding within the first hour after birth is the first and most vital step towards reducing infant and under-five mortality. Thousands of babies can be saved every year, beginning with ONE action and ONE message: begin breastfeeding within ONE hour of birth.

The milk produced by mothers in the first days after birth, called colostrum, is the perfect food for newborn babies. Besides being very high in nutritional content, it contains a complex array of immunological factors such as antibodies and leukocytes which help prevent infections and diseases to which newborns are highly vulnerable. It also coats a baby’s stomach to prevent gastrointestinal infections such as diarrhea. Colostrum, a living fluid, cannot be reproduced artificially, and its life-giving properties are part of what makes initiating breastfeeding within one hour of birth so critical.

Family Support. It is paramount that breastfeeding mothers receive support from their partners as well as other family members. This can be done easily by encouraging the mom and offering her praise for her breastfeeding efforts. Lack of support from family members to a tired, frustrated mother will often lead to early discontinuation of breastfeeding. Bringing a new mother a cooked meal or offering to wash her dishes are also ways of offering support to the breastfeeding family.

Mother to Mother Support (Peer Support). It is vital for breastfeeding mothers to have support from other breastfeeding mothers. This gives the mother an opportunity to share stories and challenges, as well as learn ways to meet these challenges. Peer support also enables participants who have breastfed successfully to share their life experiences with others. Having contact with at least one other breastfeeding mother either in your community or at work would be very beneficial.

Community Support. Breastfeeding mothers and babies benefit from communities that recognize the importance of supporting the relationship of the mother and baby. The community as a whole needs to be educated about the benefits of breastfeeding as well as the risks associated with NOT breastfeeding. Communities can also support breastfeeding moms and babies by providing them with a comfortable space to breast feed as well as privacy to those moms who want it (NOT PUBLIC WASHROOMS). In addition, workplaces and schools can also provide support through the provision of comfortable feeding areas as well as time for breastfeeding employees and students to nurse their babies. Restaurants as well as other public areas should welcome mothers to breastfeed within their establishments. Many of these areas can be identified as “Breastfeeding Friendly” by displaying their breastfeeding friendly decals on the door of their establishment.



Ten moms and babies gathered in Happy Valley-Goose Bay for the Quintessence Breastfeeding Challenge.



Twelve moms and babies participated in the Labrador West Quintessence Breastfeeding Challenge.



These moms and babies were among seven who took part in the Quintessence Breastfeeding Challenge in St. Anthony.

HEALTH PROMOTION

Employee Wellness Committee Update

During the month of May, the Employee Wellness Committee in Happy Valley - Goose Bay held a walking challenge called "Miles in May." Winners were announced in June when the challenge was completed, and on Friday September 14, 2007, awards and certificates were handed out in the Labrador Health Centre cafeteria.

One hundred and thirty seven people actually recorded their mileage, for a grand total of 9372.3 km walked by staff in Happy Valley - Goose Bay. Two coastal clinics, North West River and Hopedale, also participated. Hopedale placed extremely well, as seen below. Here are the stats for the top walkers and departments:

Top five departments :

Emergency: 99.14 km
Mental Health and Addictions: 89.73 km
Hopedale Clinic: 87.9 km
Human Resources: 87.15 km
Health Records: 71.04 km

Top personal participants:

Brent Bussey: 405 km
Debbie Blois: 249 km
Sandra Battcock: 242 km
Olive Michelin: 239 km



Marion Kippenhuck , Clerk/Typist in the Emergency Department, displays her "Miles in May" award.



Brent Bussey (right), Typist, displays his "Miles in May" medal, presented by Kelly Janes, Health Promotion and Wellness Coordinator.

A trophy was purchased and presented to the Emergency Department for top place. This trophy will be used in all other "Miles in May" Challenges, so keep your eye out for the challenge next May, for your department's chance to hold the trophy.

We thank all those that participated in the challenge, and special thanks are extended to the Employee Wellness Committee for all its hard work. If you would like to join this committee (we are still looking for employee reps), please contact kelly.janes@lghealth.ca for more information.

Kelly Janes, Health Promotion and Wellness Coordinator

TRIVIA

This issue:

Q: In what year was the Marine Railway ("The Dock") built in St. Anthony?

Last issue:

Q: In what year was the first nursing station built in St. Lewis and who was the first nurse?

A: The first nursing station was built in 1922, as a result of a financial appeal made by Dr. Grenfell in 1921. The first nurse was Miss Violet Edwards.

• A Message About Cervical Screening •

The Cervical Screening Initiatives Program is working hard to change the alarming number of women in NL who do not have a regular Pap Test. Book an appointment with your local health care provider today and help us change the face of cervical cancer. For more information on cervical cancer, call Labrador-Grenfell Health's Regional Cervical Screening Initiatives Office at 709-896-6618 or contact the provincial office toll-free at 1-866-643-8719.

AROUND THE REGION

St. Anthony

Provincial PACS “Goes Live” at Curtis Hospital

On September 18, 2007, the Charles S. Curtis Memorial Hospital’s newly upgraded Picture Archiving and Communication System (PACS) “went live” with the provincial PACS system. PACS was initially introduced at Curtis Hospital in 2002, allowing x-rays to be sent electronically to the Radiologists at the Health Sciences Centre, St. John’s, for interpretation. With this new upgrade, access to full patient diagnostic images information was made available to authorized health care providers throughout the province. The electronic copy imaging available through PACS now allows for real-time referral to consultant radiologists, allowing both the clinician and the referring Radiologist to review the same images at the same time. PACS images are shared through a secure network and will only be viewed by health care providers with authorized access to PACS.

“We are very excited to bring this updated technology to the Charles S. Curtis Memorial Hospital”, notes Wendy Christensen, Regional Director of Diagnostic Services. “This link with health care providers throughout the province will facilitate reduced wait times in diagnostic imaging reporting, which will ultimately improve service delivery to all our clients”.

The launch of the provincial PACS system at Curtis Hospital follows the successful implementation of PACS at the Labrador Health Centre in March and at the Captain William Jackman Memorial Hospital in May. It is expected that the region’s three health centres will “go live” with the provincial system by the end of March 2008.



Among the staff preparing for the PACS launch in St. Anthony were (l-r): Shawna Normore, Diagnostic Imaging Technologist; Eddie Woodford, Diagnostic Imaging Technologist; Deborah Batson, Diagnostic Imaging PACS Administrator and Wendy Christensen, Regional Director of Diagnostic Services.

Community Youth Network Launched



Special guests join children and youth at the launch in the ceremonial ribbon cutting to launch the Community Youth Network.

This past summer we received very exciting news. The Department of Human Resources, Labour and Employment has invested in our community by making funding available to develop a Community Youth Network for our youth.

The Community Youth Network (CYN) is mandated to develop an array of services for youth living in, or at risk of, poverty. These services are intended to enhance youth’s opportunities for participation in social and economic development by focusing on learning, employment, community building, and supportive services. This is exciting news for our

community as CYN will be inclusive of all youth, and will directly benefit youth in low-income families by enabling them access to experiences, opportunities and services that they might not otherwise be able to access. CYN will focus on the assets and needs of youth and assist with the development of healthy families and communities.

The St. Anthony & Area Boys & Girls Club will be the sponsoring agency and will share facilities and resources. The official launch of CYN was held on August 15 at the St. Anthony Lions Club with the Honourable Minister Shawn Skinner and Honourable Minister Trevor Taylor in attendance for the event. There was a great showing of support by the community and it provided the opportunity to develop partnerships to ensure that CYN is successful in St. Anthony and will positively affect our youth.

The CYN coordinating committee would like to thank everyone who has helped make it possible to provide this very valuable service to the young people of our community.

Tanya Dredge, Adolescent Mental Health Counselor

AROUND THE REGION

CYFS (South) Staff Gather for Face-to-Face Meeting

Child, Youth and Family Services (South) held their face-to-face team meetings on June 27 and 28, 2007. The first day was held in St. Anthony with business/discussions in the morning and a tour of the Grenfell properties in the afternoon. The second day was held in Roddickton and provided an opportunity to participate in team building exercises, with activities and a barbecue planned as part of the day's events. The Child, Youth and Family Services staff members in the South usually meet twice a year, as team members are scattered throughout the region and regular in-person contact is not possible. The two days were enjoyed by all. It was also an opportunity to welcome our newest team member, Norma Myers and also for our summer students, Crystal Fitzpatrick and Sasha Campbell, to formally meet the rest of the team in this region.

Charlene Kearney, B.S.W, R.S.W



Front row (l-r) : Crystal Fitzpatrick, Sasha Campbell, Natalie Hopkins-Andrews, Nadine Genge and Ina Brenton. Back row (l-r): Sheila Fitzgerald, Joe Wissler, Beverly Patey, Victoria Reardon-Kearney, Charlene Kearney, Norma Myers and Brenda Hedderson. Missing from photo is Elaine Hillier.

Mental Health and Addictions Services Regional Meeting

Regional Mental Health and Addictions Services staff members gathered from October 2-4, 2007, for networking, regional planning, education, and a little fun! It was the first time staff from across the region were brought together, and everyone felt the benefits of meeting their team colleagues in person. Presentations during the three days included innovative initiatives from different parts of the region, including the Amazing Race, Suicide Walk, Parenting your Adolescent Program, Stars of Mental Health and creative approaches in working with youth. Staff members also attended an education session on Critical Incident Stress Debriefing and Psychological First Aid in the context of pandemic planning. Regional planning involved activities such as identifying fears about change; creating the ideal mental health and addictions worker; establishing a vision for "The Best Mental Health and Addictions Services Department in the Province"; and naming the next steps towards this vision. There was also opportunity to discuss a range of departmental issues, including continuing education, data collection and reporting, continuous quality improvement, policy needs and performance appraisals.

Outside of the productive work time, staff members enjoyed the Great Viking Feast at Leifsburdir, social and shopping time, and learning some local history at the Grenfell Interpretation Centre. A small group of adventurers also climbed the 476 steps at Fishing Point and hiked around the boardwalks.

It was a productive and enjoyable time together, and an important step in our ongoing efforts to become a unified regional service.

*Deanne Costello,
Regional Director of Mental Health and Addictions Services*



Mental Health and Addictions staff at the Regional Meeting in St. Anthony.

AROUND THE REGION

Labrador City

Labrador West Relay Sets Provincial Record

Earlier this summer, Labrador West set a new provincial record, bringing in over \$106,000 for the Canadian Cancer Society's Relay for Life. Among the many staff in attendance were several members of the Sunshine Crew, ranging from community members to nursing, laundry, housekeeping, security and radiology staff. The weather was great and everyone had a great time taking part in this very worthy cause.



The Sunshine Crew (front, l-r): Gail Moores, Pauline Winters, Alice Laing, Paulette Mulrooney, Jocelyn Young, Brenda Lynn Gabriel and Denise Foote; (middle): Sam Coombs; (back, l-r): Barb Hancock, Loretta Hancock, Catherine (Cak) Strangemore, Evelyn Clarke and Angela Stevens.

Southeast Labrador

Service Awards Presented at Staff Barbeque

Staff from the Community Clinics in Mary's Harbour, St. Lewis, Port Hope Simpson and Charlottetown had the opportunity get together in Port Hope Simpson on August 1 to for a great BBQ and presentation of Service Awards.

A big thank-you to Labrador-Grenfell Health for providing the food and to Shane, Carl, Don and Bob for preparing the BBQ - although we think that Don and Bob were mainly the taste testers and quality control! Also, thanks to Don for picking up the BBQs and tables and to Elizabeth, Betty and Ella for helping clean up. It was lovely having everyone together and hopefully we will have another one next year.

Three staff received 10 year service award pins, presented by Barbara Molgaard Blake, Chief Operating Officer (South): Donnie Sampson (Port Hope Simpson), Ella Marshall and Marilyn Kippenhuck (both from Charlottetown).



Photo (l-r): Donnie Sampson (Clinical Coordinator, Port Hope Simpson), Joanne Bridle (Community Health Nurse, Port Hope Simpson), Ella Marshall (Personal Care Attendant, Charlottetown), Victoria Paul (Regional Nurse, St. Lewis), Marilyn Kippenhuck (Regional Nurse, Charlottetown), Shane Bridle (Addictions Coordinator, Port Hope Simpson) and Carl Kippenhuck (Maintenance Repairer).

Clinics Undergo Renovations

An Extension for Charlottetown Clinic. For many years, staff in Charlottetown have recognized that the Outpatient and Emergency section of the clinic does not have adequate space and is not the most ideal layout for ensuring patient confidentiality and privacy. This new extension will allow for the redevelopment of these spaces.



Port Hope Simpson Clinic Gets a Facelift. Maintenance staff in Port Hope Simpson have been busy installing new windows and siding at the clinic this fall. Shown here are Donald Sampson (left), Maintenance Repairer, and Lemual Penney, Casual Maintenance Repairer.



FOCUS ON STAFF

Jodi MacPhail

Jodi comes from Margaree, Nova Scotia (on Cape Breton Island). She is a new graduate from the School of Physiotherapy at Dalhousie University, now working as a Physiotherapist at the Labrador Health Centre in Happy Valley - Goose Bay.

Jodi notes that her aunt, Donna Arsenault, a Regional Nurse on the Labrador Coast, is responsible for helping her decide to work with Labrador-Grenfell Health in Happy Valley - Goose Bay. She is looking forward to working with the staff at the Labrador Health Centre, especially her friend and fellow physiotherapist, Sneha Jani.

Welcome Jodi. We are glad you chose Labrador-Grenfell Health and wish you the best of luck in your new job and home.



Dr. Kevin Wardle



Dr. Wardle is a general dentist who graduated from the University of Western Ontario and initially practiced in Ontario. His interests are in the areas of surgical, preventive and restorative dentistry.

Dr. Wardle spent the last 13 years practicing in the Middle East (Saudi Arabia, Oman and Abu Dhabi in the United Arab Emirates), as well as two years in Saipan and Tinian (small islands in the Pacific Ocean near the Philippines).

Dr. Wardle will be working with the Dental Department based in Roddickton, with traveling responsibility for Port Hope Simpson on the Labrador Coast. He notes that he and his wife, Vivienne, look forward to becoming part of the Labrador-Grenfell and Roddickton communities.

Welcome to you and your wife, Dr. Wardle. We hope you enjoy working with Labrador-Grenfell Health and living in Roddickton.

Paul Sharpe

Originally from Twillingate, NL, Paul completed his Aircraft Maintenance Engineering training in Gander, NL in 1998. Since then, he has been working in both Alberta and Nova Scotia with several different companies including Triad Aviation, IMP Aerospace, Wright International (Jetsgo contract) and most recently, Air Canada – Jazz.

Paul has accepted the position of Aircraft Maintenance Engineer with Labrador-Grenfell Health in St. Anthony. He is married to Natasha (Powell) Sharpe of St. Anthony and they have three children, Sara (9), Matthew (7) and Ryan (19 months). Paul says, "We are all extremely happy to be here, where you really have a winter!"

Welcome, Paul. Good luck with your new position. We hope you and your family enjoy your new home.



Rhoda Parsons



Born and raised in Green Island Brook, NL, Rhoda is now married and living in Griquet. Over the years she has held a variety of positions including fish plant worker, sales clerk, food processing worker and home care worker.

Over the past year she completed the Personal Care Attendant (PCA) course at the College of the North Atlantic in St. Anthony. She is currently working as a PCA at the John M. Gray Centre where she notes she is really enjoying working with the seniors.

Welcome to Labrador-Grenfell Health, Rhoda and good luck in your new position.

Shirley Canning

Shirley grew up in Labrador West and received her Bachelor of Social Work degree from St. Thomas University in May 2000. In June 2000, she was hired by the Health Care Corporation of St. John's (now Eastern Health) and while there, she completed one year in CLASS and six months in Child Protection.

Shirley has accepted a permanent social work position with Labrador-Grenfell Health's CYFS program in Wabush and notes she is glad to be home again.

Welcome home, Shirley. We hope you enjoy working with Labrador-Grenfell Health.



RETIREMENTS

Roy Burton

Roy Burton was a 4th Class Engineer at the Captain William Jackman Memorial Hospital. Throughout his career, on many occasions, he went beyond the call of duty, assuming new challenges and providing leadership when needed most. Those who worked with him appreciated his commitment and enjoyed his personality. On behalf of Labrador-Grenfell Health, we thank Roy for his 30 years of dedicated service and wish him all the best on his well deserved retirement.

*Judy Russell, Administrative Secretary and
Randy Cull, Regional Director of Support Services*



Roy Burton accepts a retirement gift from Ozette Simpson, Chief Operating Officer (West)

Dr. Donald Tennent



Dr. Tennent (centre) poses with LPNs at the Captain William Jackman Memorial Hospital (l-r): Martha Penney, Daisy Taylor, Denise Foote and Jocelyn Young

Dr. Tennent was recruited to Labrador West by Dr. Guy Hogan in 1992 as visiting OBS/Gyne Specialist. He has since provided the community in Labrador West with a very valuable service. For the past 15 years, he would travel to the area about every six to eight weeks and hold a clinic for four to six days. He provided OBS support and consultation to family physicians and provided Gyne service to patients, allowing them to remain in their home community for treatment and/or follow up. Dr. Tennent will be greatly missed by medical staff, nursing staff, support staff and patients. On behalf of the organization, and all his colleagues at the Captain William Jackman Memorial Hospital, I wish him a happy, healthy retirement!

Denise Foote, Licensed Practical Nurse

Doreen Randell

Doreen Randell retired from her position of Public Health Nurse with Community Health at the end of April 2007. Although this was her last position with Labrador-Grenfell Health, it was certainly not her only one. When Doreen first arrived, she worked as a Regional Nurse at the North West River clinic. She performed her clinic duties as well as her share of on call. And, of course, before the days of paramedics, she certainly had her share of ambulance runs. In 1996, she obtained the position of Public Health Nurse in North West River. She enjoyed working with the community and the community enjoyed working with her. Besides her specific role as Public Health Nurse, she was often called upon by youth and seniors' groups to deliver educational talks. Later, she also took a part-time position as a Continuing Care Nurse, to help with the increased demands in that department.

Doreen helped form the Wellness Coalition of North West River and remained an active member of the core group. Never one to say no, she took on the challenging role of Coordinator of the Child Development Team for the Labrador region.

Doreen is certainly missed at the Mani Ashini Clinic by her co-workers and clients alike. We know she is enjoying her retirement. Her family and friends are her main passion. She has been spotted many times walking, gardening and golfing, and for sure, she has more time for her crafts. Doreen, we all wish you well.



Doreen Randell at the Mani Ashini Clinic

Anne Marie Tobin, RN, Continuing Care

RETIREMENTS

Agnes Patey

Agnes Patey was first employed by the International Grenfell Association in June, 1974. Her first position was as a Statistics/Accounts Receivable Clerk in the General Office. After about four years, she moved to the Finance Office, where it is now located in the Old Hospital in St. Anthony. In 1982, her role changed slightly and she became an Accounting Clerk responsible for Billings and Accounts Receivable. She maintained that position through the various forms of the organization.

On July 31, 2007, Agnes retired from the position that she had held for 25 years. A small retirement function was held in the Finance Office and was attended by co-workers and some family members (including her sister who had flown in from St. John's to surprise Agnes at the event).

Agnes has a special place in her heart for all things Grenfell. Between the ages of 2 and 13, she spent most of her life in the hospital in St. Anthony. This connection has stayed with her through her career and her personal interests. She was a founding member of the Grenfell Historical Society and is currently the President of that organization.

Her retirement will allow her to pursue other interests – particularly gardening and traveling to spend time with her children and grandchildren. Her co-workers at Labrador-Grenfell Health wish her all the best for a happy and healthy retirement.



Agnes Patey (left) accepts a retirement gift from Michele Hodder, Regional Director of Financial Services

Michele C. Hodder, CA Regional Director of Financial Services

FAREWELL TEA

Farewell Tea for Long-Time Staff Members

On August 13, 2007, staff gathered at the Labrador South Health Centre, where a farewell tea was held for Antionette Cabot and Janet Dumaresque. Both nurses have worked at here for approximately twelve years and their nursing/medical support during this period was invaluable.

Both Antionette and Janet have perused employment opportunities elsewhere in the province. Antionette is with the Centre for Nursing Studies as a Nursing Instructor and Janet in Northwest River as a Nurse Practitioner. We would like to thank both of them for their many years of dedicated service to our facility and communities and wish them well in their new positions.



Antionette Cabot (left) and Janet Dumaresque cut the cake at a farewell tea held in their honor.

*Cornelia Linstead,
District Health Coordinator*

SERVICE AWARD

Aramark Employee Receives 10 Year Service Award

Congratulations are extended to Tracy Duder on receiving her 15 year service award from Aramark Canada Ltd. Tracey is the Clinical Leader for Nutrition Services at Labrador-Grenfell Health and is based at the Labrador Health Centre in Happy Valley – Goose Bay.



In this photo, Tracey accepts her award from John MacDonald, District Manager with Aramark Canada Ltd.

OBITUARIES

Marilyn Sampson

It is with sadness that Labrador-Grenfell Health notes the passing of Ms. Marilyn Sampson (nee Coles) on July 7, 2007. She was 53.

Marilyn worked as a Nursing Assistant at Curtis Memorial Hospital from 1975-1982, after which time she moved to Flower's Cove and worked in the private sector. She is survived by her husband Maitland, daughter Kelly and son Sean, as well as a large circle of family and friends.

Eva Blevins



It is with sadness that Labrador-Grenfell Health notes the passing of Eva Blevins on August 4, 2007. She was 64.

Eva was the daughter of the late Alfred and Ivy Johnson. She began working as a Nursing Aide in St. Anthony as a young girl. She moved to Goose Bay and eventually to the United States, where She married Freddie Blevins (Butch)

in a nursing home chapel in Texas, where she worked as a Practical Nurse. Eva's work history includes nursing and hotel and store management. Her main love was her early career in nursing and it has been said that she was kind and gentle with patients.

Eva returned to Canada in the 1970s and back to St. Anthony in 1996, to care for her mom until she passed away in 2005. Eva contributed many hours to volunteer work in this community and province. At one point, Eva served on 16 committees at once including several that supported the work of Labrador-Grenfell Health (i.e., the Curtis Hospital Auxiliary, the Northern Heart Health Coalition, the Northern Wellness Coalition, the Seniors Resource Center, Diabetes Awareness, Falls Prevention) and others. Eva's volunteer work was recognized by the Minister on the Status of Women in 2005 when she received the Dorothy Whittick Memorial Award for work with seniors groups in this province. Eva did not strive for glory or praise, but acted because she saw that she could play a helping role.

Eva will be missed for her dedication, enthusiasm, professionalism and sense of humor. Eva was giving to the end. Despite everything facing her this past year, when one of her nephews had a head injury in May, she prayed to God that if He had just one more miracle for her, that He should give it to him. Eva is predeceased by her husband, Butch, in February of this year, her parents, two nieces and a brother-in-law. She is survived and greatly missed by sisters Millicent and Elaine, brother, Guy, nieces, nephews, extended family and many friends.

George Heath



It is with sadness that Labrador-Grenfell Health notes the passing of Mr. George Heath on August, 6, 2007. He was 74.

Mr. Heath was known for his involvement with the construction of various facilities throughout region. He worked on the Paddon Hospital in Happy Valley-Goose Bay, the Curtis Hospital in St. Anthony, as well as nursing stations in Port Hope Simpson and Northwest River. In addition, he was project supervisor on various construction and renovation projects in St. Anthony. He finished work with the IGA in 1975, at which time he became a Carpenter Instructor at the local trade school.

He is survived by his wife Irene, 5 sons, and a large circle of family and friends

Angela Bruce - Alleyne



It is with sadness that Labrador-Grenfell Health notes the passing of Ms. Angela Bruce-Alleyne on July 10, 2007 in Thompson Manitoba. She was 64.

Angela, who was from Trinidad, first came to Mary's Harbour on April 10, 1975. She was one of the first six nurses to enroll in the MUN Outpost Nursing Program in 1978. She upgraded her skills in Primary Care, Community Health and Mental Health. Already having Midwife training, she finished her course six months early, and returned to Mary's Harbour, and remained there until 1984.

Upon leaving Mary's Harbour, Angela worked in Roddickton, and then in St. Anthony, from February to April in 1985. She then moved to Thompson, Manitoba, where she worked until her retirement in 2004. While there, she was very involved with many volunteer organizations.

Angela is predeceased by her father Albert and her sister Glenda. She is survived by her mother Rita and brother Junior and a large circle of family and friends, including those she worked with in Mary's Harbour, whom she often referred to as her family, as well.



COMINGS AND GOINGS

WELCOME TO:

CARTWRIGHT

Nancy Brown Community Health Nurse

FLOWER'S COVE

Georgette Tatchell Licensed Practical Nurse (Temporary)

FORTEAU

Effie Noseworthy Regional Nurse (Temporary)

HAPPY VALLEY-GOOSE BAY

Logan Angiers Utility Worker (Temporary)

Wanda Baldwin Clerk (Temporary)

Alan Casey Vice President, Financial Services

Stella Christie-Cooke Social Worker (CYFS)

Amanda Collier Social Worker (CYFS)

Anne Conachan Registered Nurse/Midwife

Dr. Nemat Daraei Physician

Fiona Dyson Typist (Temporary)

Sherri Hillier Clerk Typist (Temporary)

Sneha Jani Physiotherapist

Wayne LeBlanc Environmental Services Supervisor

Jodi MacPhail Physiotherapist

Kristen Ryan-Roberts Laboratory Technologist

Twyla Spence Laboratory Technologist (Temporary)

Crystal Templeman Storekeeper (Temporary)

Lacey Traverse Social Worker (CYFS)

Garfield Wheeler Utility Worker (Temporary)

HOPEDALE

Catherine Snow Social Worker (CYFS)

LABRADOR CITY-WABUSH

Lisa Blackmore Child Care Services Consultant

Sonya Dunne Licensed Practical Nurse (Temporary)

Erica Durnford Switchboard Operator (Temporary)

Michalann Foley Buyer (Temporary)

Lisa Hewitt Domestic Worker (Temporary)

Debbie Pickett Licensed Practical Nurse (Temporary)

Dana Pieroway Recreation Therapy Worker (Temporary)

Carla Reid Clinical Dietitian

NAIN

Nina Francoeur Personal Care Attendant (Temporary)

Kim Voisey Word Processing Equipment Operator

(CYFS – Temporary)

NATUASHISH

Michel Penute Community Service Worker (Temporary)

Robin Piwas Community Service Worker (Temporary)

Dion Weir Maintenance Repairer I (Part-time)

NORTHWEST RIVER

Priscilla O'Brien Personal Care Attendant (Casual)

PORT HOPE SIMPSON

Lael Crocker Behaviour/Child Management Specialist

RIGOLET

Jimmy Sheppard Maintenance Repairer I (Casual) Charles Feltham

RODDICKTON

Dr. Kevin Wardle Dentist

ST. ANTHONY

Joan Adams Personal Care Attendant (Temporary)

Jodi Canning Clerical Support (Temporary)

Stacey Drudge Registered Nurse (Float)

Ian Gould First Officer

Renita McGrath Personal Care Attendant (Temporary)

Rhoda Parsons Personal Care Attendant (Temporary)

Jennifer Patey Clerical Support (Temporary)

Millicent Patey Personal Care Attendant (Temporary)

Sasha Pike Registered Nurse (Float)

Trina Roberts Personal Care Attendant (Temporary)

Alma Rumbolt Personal Care Attendant (Temporary)

Lynn Rumbolt Clerical Support (Temporary)

Paul Sharpe Aircraft Maintenance Engineer

Michael Simmonds Respiratory Therapist

GOODBYE AND GOOD LUCK TO:

RODDICKTON

Dr. Laurel Gregory Dentist

ST. ANTHONY

Danette Darrigan Psychologist

Laetitia Jesso Clerical Support

Kenneth Mesher Trades Worker

Agnes Patey Accounting Clerk (Retired)

Lori Parsons Registered Nurse

Joyce Pilgrim Mental Health Nurse (Retired)

Rod Simmons Behaviour/Child Management Specialist

Jacenta Smith Registered Nurse

Mitzi Taylor Biomedical Engineering Technologist

LABRADOR CITY

Gerald Burton Power Engineer (Retired)

Diana Coombs Social Worker (Temporary)

Mary Moriarty Diagnostic Imaging Technologist

HAPPY VALLEY-GOOSE BAY

Dawn Algeo Registered Nurse

Kristen Blake Social Worker Assistant (Temporary)

Natasha Brinston Social Worker

Sondra Cabot LabQuest Coordinator

Helena Cochrane Domestic Worker (Retired)

Harriet Heard Licensed Practical Nurse

Lester Kippenhuck Food Service Worker

Judith Legge Registered Nurse

Alesha Simpson Registered Nurse

NAIN

Christine Ponniuk Social Worker (CYFS)

FROM THE PAST

Louie Hall Nursing Station - Forteau

Charles S. Curtis, M.D

Adapted from *Among the Deep Sea Fishers*, January, 1947

The first nursing station on this Mission, in fact, the first on Labrador or Newfoundland, was built at Forteau over forty years ago. Wind and frost and storm had heaved it out of shape. It leaked, was cold in winter and inconvenient, but it has never been closed all these years. It was the only place on the southern Labrador coast where help could be obtained for the sick. A long line of devoted nurses have been stationed here, traveling the coast, east to Red Bay and west often far into Canadian-Labrador, by dogteam in winter and boat in summer. Only one intimately connected with this work can appreciate the devotion of these nurses who are for months at a time alone and often confronted with emergencies that require courage and skill.

only an important business, but a significant historic structure. It also lamented the loss of the antique Grenfell collection within the building. Many years ago, Miss Louie A. Hall of Rochester, devoted friend of this Mission, gave a community hall for this settlement, Brooks Hall. Just before the war, she told me she would like to rebuild the nursing station there and gave me funds to rebuild it. Difficulties of getting building materials and the high cost of labor prevented this construction, but this year we could wait no longer - the building was uninhabitable. In June, Ted McNeill, with a crew of carpenters, steam-fitters and plumbers, left St. Anthony with the building materials and started construction,

which was finished in September, and now the nurse, for the first time in years, is in a comfortable nursing station. The exterior is of gray asbestos shingles, the roof is of red asbestos shingles. There is a large basement for all the supplies, clothing, wood and coal to be stored, and a furnace-room with a hot-water furnace. On the first floor there is a waiting-room, dispensary, linen closets and two large wards with a bathroom between. All the medical work is done in this wing. In the other wing are the staff quarters - a living room overlooking the Straits of Belle Isle and a large, well-equipped kitchen and pantry. On the second floor there are five bedrooms and bathrooms, linen closets and storeroom. In the attic there are other storerooms. The building is insulated with six inches of rock wool. The interior walls are Homasote. This Homasote is a gift of Mr. Outerbridge, President of Homasote Company. The floors are brown linoleum. There is electric light, water and all modern conveniences.

We owe much to Ted McNeill, who made the plans and constructed the building, also to Miss Young, who was able to secure building materials and plumbing supplies.

In years to come the Louie Hall Nursing Station at Forteau will be the center of medical and social work of the Grenfell Mission on this part of the coast.

Photo Trivia

This issue:

Q: Name the building in this picture.



Last issue:

Q: Name the significant event taking place in this photograph.



A: This photo depicts the Grand Opening of the Charles S. Curtis Memorial Hospital on May 30, 1968, with Premier Joey Smallwood in attendance. Thanks are extended to Mr. Alwyn Sansford of Bridgewater, Nova Scotia, and Jeanette Hostetter of St. Anthony for submitting correct responses.

Along the Coast to Labrador

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