

Bookhammer heads Beebe drive

Lieutenant Governon Eugene D. Bookhammer has been named general chairman of a county-wide \$1 million capital funds campaign on behalf of Beebe Hospital.

The Lieutenant Governor's appointment to the post was announced Wednesday by Otis H. Smith, president of the hospital's board of directors.

Under Bookhammer's direction a corps of volunteers, expected to number upwards of 250, will solicit Sussex County businesses' industries, organizations and individuals for subscriptions and contributions to the fund drive, the hospital's first in 13 years.

The campaign, said Smith, will provide funds for a much needed expansion of the Lewes-based hospital and for modernization of existing facilities.

Pointing out that Lewes is rapidly becoming the population center of the

County, Smith said Beebe Hospital's existing 158 beds are "barely adequate to meet the health needs of the area's, 60,000 permanent residents and the bed situation sometimes becomes uncomfortably tight with the influx of summer visitors."

Highest priority in the proposed building program, said Smith, will be given to completion of the fifth floor of the Harry W. Lynch Building, erected in 1963. In previous construction, the fifth floor was left as a "shell" for completion as the need arose. Finishing the Lynch Building, said Smith, will enable the hospital to discontinue use of the original hospital building for bed space. The original building, built in 1921, will be converted to uses other than inpatient care.

Completion of the Lynch Building will result in an additional five private and 16 semi-private beds, plus a technologically sophisticated 6-bed

intensive care unit for treatment and observation and of the critically ill. Beebe Hospital is presently equipped with a somewhat similar 6-bed coronary care unit which is used for dangerously ill heart patients. Other improvements to be provided through the fund raising campaign, said Smith, are the air conditioning of the Thompson Building, which dates to the 1950's and expansion of the hospital's radiology, administrative, pharmacy, autopsy and maintenance areas.

Bookhammer indicated he plans to organize the Beebe Hospital expansion fund campaign into four separate phases. The first two phases of the campaign, he said, will begin immediately. They are the solicitation of the hospital "family," its board of directors, medical staff, auxiliaries, nurses and employees; and the solicitation of a group of notably

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LT. GOV. EUGENE BOOKHAMMER

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Beebe hospital fund drive

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generous individuals in search of pace-setting major gifts.

Named to the major gifts committee by Bookhammer were: Melvin L. Joseph, Judge John J. McNeilly and Robert W. Tunnell, all of Georgetown; Benjamin F. Shaw II, and Mayor Alfred Stango, all of Lewes; Norman B. Baylis, Harry W. Lynch Jr. and Mrs. J. H. Tyler McConnell, of Wilmington; Preston C. Townsend, Millsboro; and Dr. George M. Worrilow, of Newark.

Appointed by Bookhammer to lead solicitation of the hospital's medical staff were: E. L. Stambaugh, M. D., Rehoboth Beach and Ulo Ware, M. D., Lewes.

Employee campaign co-chairman are: Mrs. Marie Willin, R. N., of Rehoboth; John Bishop, Lewes; and Emmett L. Wilson, Jr., of Georgetown.

Group commitments to the Beebe campaign from the two hospital auxiliaries, said Bookhammer, will be obtained by Mrs. John W. Howard, Lewes, president of the Lewes Auxiliary; and Mrs. Suzanne Foraker, Sea Spray Village, president of the Rehoboth Auxiliary.

The third phase of the campaign will be the special gifts effort, which will begin in late July and will have as its chairman Raymond R. Atkins, of Lewes. Members of the special gifts volunteer organization will solicit subscriptions from a large number of Sussex businesses and individuals.

The campaign's final phase will be led by Dr. Kent S. Price, of Lewes. Dr. Price and the members of his committee will begin work in August and will be responsible for soliciting the bulk of Sussex Countians and summer residents.

Bookhammer urged residents of the area to give the Beebe Hospital campaign their fullest support. Said he: "The hospital is unquestionably one of the most vital institutions in the county.

It safeguards the health and possibly the very lives, of tens of thousands of persons. Each and every one of us is dependent upon Beebe Hospital to a greater to lesser degree. Now, Beebe Hospital needs us. The job is a big one. It's going to take a lot of volunteer workers and a lot of generous givers. I hope every Sussex Countian when asked to work, will work diligently and when asked to give, will give generously.

Beebe Eyes Expansion

7/26/72

REHOBOTH BEACH — A \$2 million payroll and a work force of more than 300

persons make Beebe Hospital the largest industry in Lewes, Rehoboth merchants were told yesterday.

The hospital, which now serves a year-round population of 60,000, treated 1,000 more emergency room cases in 1971 than previously, had 500 more admissions, 220 more operations and made in excess of 1,300 more X-rays and 13,000 more laboratory tests.

These facts and others were brought to the Rehoboth Beach Chamber of Commerce weekly meeting yesterday by James A. Flood as evidence of the need for a \$1.7 million expansion program now underway at Beebe.

Flood is the public information chairman for the expansion and editor-in-chief of the publications of

Coastal Communications, Inc.

Flood said the 56-year-old hospital expects to gain \$200,000 from securities and other resources, \$500,000 from the federal government and \$1 million from a capital gifts campaign now underway.

The monies will be spent primarily to expand treatment facilities for stroke, heart and respiratory patients due to the increase in the number of senior citizens in the area, Flood said. Other uses include completing the fifth floor of the hospital's Lynch Building, enlarging medical records and drug storage, expanding the pharmacy and radiology laboratories and building a new morgue.

The 158-bed hospital in Lewes is not in serious need of additional beds currently.

DN Sept. 14, 1972

Nearly 1,000 contribute \$575,000 to hospital

Nearly 1,000 Sussex County residents and firms have contributed a total of \$575,000 towards the current Beebe Hospital expansion fund campaign, it was announced today by Lieutenant Governor Eugene D. Bookhammer, general chairmann of the \$1 million hospital campaign.

The gifts and pledges, which have been obtained by hospital volunteers who began campaigning late in June, said the lieutenant governor, "represent an extraordinarily high level of giving." "Our average individual gift," said Bookhammer, "now stands at \$610 on a total of 942 individual gifts. This indicates that people are really 'stretching' in order to help the hospital make that million dollar goal." Bookhammer credited the hospital "subscription" plan by which contributors may take as long as five years to fulfill their pledges with producing the campaign's high level of giving.

Bookhammer also pointed out that a number of unusually large gifts have helped swell the current total. There have been, he said, 67 individual gifts ranging from \$1,000 to \$3,000; 17 gifts of \$5,000 to \$7,500; and 12 pledges in the area of \$10,000 to \$50,000.

Pointing out that the campaign still has several weeks to go, Bookhammer expressed confidence that the overall \$1,000,000 goal will be achieved by the end of the year. Said the Lieutenant Governor, "There are still a number of substantial contributions expected to come in through the major gifts committee and the special and general gifts committees are continuing their work."

Both the special and general gifts committees, said Bookhammer, already have surpassed their minium targets. The special gifts committee, which is being led by Raymond R. Atkins, Lewes funeral director, has raised nearly \$123,000 against a goal of \$75,000. General gifts volunteers, led by Dr. Kent S. Price, assistant dean of the University of Delaware College of Marine Sciences, achieved more than \$26,000 in their first two weeks of solicitation. The minimum general gifts target had been set at \$25,000. More than 300 local residents are serving as volunteers on the hospital's various campaign committees.

Gifts to the Beebe Hospital expansion fund campaign will help provide funds for a \$1.7 million expansion and improvement program at the

Lewes-based hospital, which is the primary medical resource for some 60,000 year-round residents of Sussex County and an estimated 100,000 summer vistors. Included in the project are the completion of the fifth

floor of the hospital's Harry W. Lynch Sr. building and the installation of a six-bed intensive care unit for observation and treatment of the critically ill and injured.

Beebe Expansion

Plans Discussed

LEWES — Architectural plans for the expansion of Beebe Hospital received some additional input Monday at a meeting of various health officials and hospital building fund committee members.

Among items discussed was the need to provide additional parking and improve the water supply to a nearby fire hydrant. Also discussed were better facilities for the public health clinics which now share some of the hospital's emergency facilities.

Beebe administrator Frank Larsen said the hospital hoped to obtain approximately \$500,000 in federal funding for part of the expansion program, but he was not sure what effect possible federal spending cut backs would have on that funding.

Eagle Beebe Hosp. 23 Jan 73



Sabine Langerock (left), a Belgian exchange student at Cape Henlopen High School, met Gov. Russell W. Peterson Christmas Eve as he visited patients at Beebe Hospital. She works there as a volunteer.

Russ Makes Rounds At Lewes Hospital

LEWES — Santa Claus wasn't the only jolly old fellow to visit Beebe Hospital Christmas Eve.

Outgoing Gov. Russell Peterson made what has become a traditional appearance at some hospitals throughout the day Sunday.

Crisscrossing the state by helicopter, he arrived at Beebe from the Hospital for the Mentally Retarded at Stockely about 8:45 a.m., bearing a smile, hand shake and souvenir pens.

Obviously not old enough to be Santa and not sporting a white beard, some of the patients still did not recognize him at first — probably because one doesn't expect to see the governor of the state walking into a hospital room on Christmas Eve.

Peterson visited with each patient who was able to have company and shook hands with hospital staff members.

Beebe was bright with Christmas decorations on every floor, including some room doors which had been decorated by the hospital's therapist and patients.

Hospital Administrator Frank Larsen said the hospital attempted to allow every patient to go home for Christmas, but the hospital served over 60 turkey dinners with all the trimmings Christmas day.

One of those who is usually at the hospital as an employe spent Christmas in one of the hospital's beds. David Bolen, director of fiscal affairs for the hospital, is recovering from surgery and spent the holidays finding out what it is like to be on the receiving end of hospital services.

One person who made it her business to be at the hospital on Christmas Eve, as well as during the last several weeks, was Sabine Langerock, a Belgium exchange student at Cape Henlopen High School.

Miss Langerock's father is a physician in Belgium, and she has been learning hospital routine as a volunteer.

Several rooms were full of Christmas music and relatives as the day wore on, with many a family Christmas being brought to the patient from home.

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