

Redi Care — new form of health care

By JOHN HOINSKI
Staff Writer

When the Redi-Care Medical Centers sprang up in California several years ago, they quickly developed a reputation more suited for a fast-food chain than a health corporation. In fact, they were commonly known as a "Doc in the Box."

Unfortunately, it's also the sort of reputation that sometimes suggests an exchange in quality for streamlined service. That is not the case in this situation.

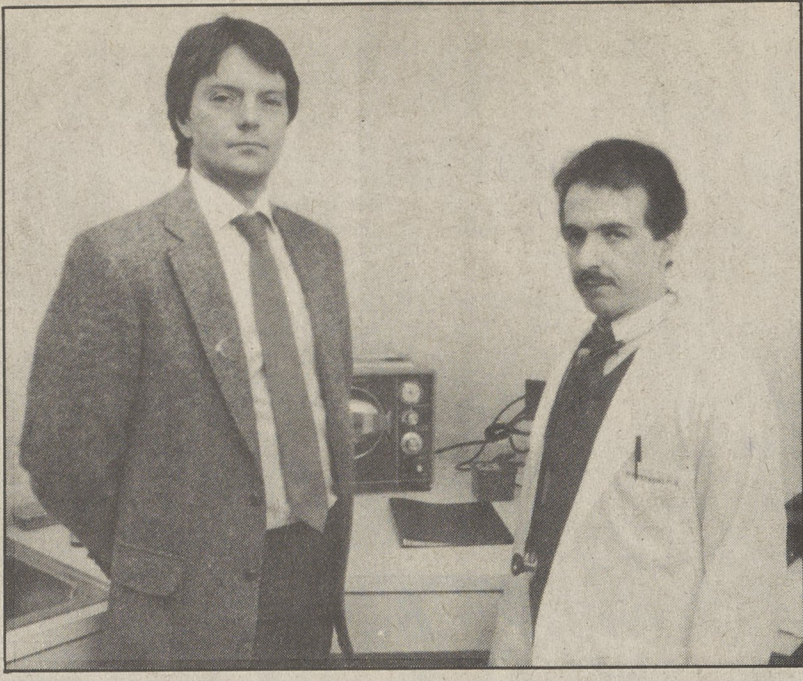
A privately funded corporation, Redi-Care centers do provide fast service, but they also provide efficient, low-cost quality care with a full-time staff of qualified doctors. Perhaps even more importantly, they ease the burden placed on hospital emergency rooms as well as the patients who sometimes must wait for hours before being seen by a physician.

"We are sort of a take-off of the emergency room in hospitals," Joe Balavage, of the Back Mountain, administrator of the newly opened Redi-Care center on the corner of Wyoming Ave. and Union Streets, Kingston, said.

"Those rooms in a hospital are used for real emergencies, a crisis-type situation. We usually don't handle that sort of thing here. We service the people who, for example, would go to a hospital to be looked at for a case of the flu. But, they might have to wait for a long time before they are seen. Here, people are coming and going in less than a half hour."

Although the center is prepared to handle more serious cases, it does not admit anyone into a hospital.

"If an abnormal situation does occur, we tell them to notify their physician, or if they don't



Redi-Care staff

Shown here in a laboratory room of the newly-opened Redi-Care Medical Center, Kingston, are, from left, Joe Balavage, administrator; and David Perrone, M.D.

have one, we tell them to come back for a consultation and proceed from there," Balavage explained.

"In a more serious case, like a heart attack, we will attend to them until they can be transported by paramedics to a hospital. But, we are more of a seasonal type of operation. Right now, we are handling a lot of flu cases. In the summer we handle fractures, cuts, bee stings, any minor medical problem."

Another advantage of the Redi-Care center is the low cost of care compared to that of a hospital. Balavage estimates that people can save approximately 50 percent in medical expenses in addition to being treated in a

more friendly confine.

"When you go into a hospital, you pay for the use of the emergency room, the doctor and so on down the line," Balavage said. "But, here you pay one set charge. And, along with getting quicker service, they are also being treated in a friendlier atmosphere."

"Here, our staff is oriented toward patients who are not seriously ill. But, sometimes in the emergency room in a hospital the staff there can be very busy with a lot of critical situations. Then, when they are just about through for the night someone might walk in with a case of the flu, for instance, and because of the hectic conditions that existed before, the doctors can be a little

hard with the patient. They don't do it on purpose; it's just the stress of that type of setting," Balavage continued.

"But, here we know what type of people we are dealing with most of the time and our staff is well-prepared."

The center, which operates seven days a week, is open from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. Currently, it is also providing a free health screen in which a series of approximately 24 tests are run on the blood.

Although the facility has only been in existence since the beginning of January, the center is already a huge success and no one is happier than Balavage.

A former promotion and display worker with Pomeroy's, he has always had a fascination with medicine.

"I worked with Pomeroy's for several years in the promotions and display department, but I became stagnant. I just wasn't happy with what I was doing," the 34-year old Shavertown resident said. "I always had an interest in pre-hospital care, so I got involved with the Kingston Township ambulance service."

"After I left Pomeroy's, I went to Wasserott's and eventually met a few doctors. Then I became involved in the paramedics program which was being taught by Dr. David Perrone. We both began talking and from there, one thing led to another and this is where it ended up."

The Kingston facility, which is also being run by Dr. John Caruno, along with Balavage and Perrone, is equipped with five examination rooms, one x-ray lab and a procedure room. With a full-time staff of 15 doctors, none of whom have a private practice, one doctor is on duty at all times.

The group recently expanded and is now operating a new Redi-Care center in Easton.

Tragedy

(Continued from page 1)

Paul Detwiler of Kingston also agrees. "It was a tragedy, but I don't think we should stop exploration. We've been going on for years and, with all the miles we logged, I think the fatalities are nil compared to the people being killed every day."

"Individuals get killed in their cars and nobody cares except for the family involved," Detwiler continued. "But just because this includes a nation, it doesn't make it any more of a tragedy."

"I don't think we should scrub the program," Bob Lynady of Kingston agreed. "You have to expect things like this to happen once in a while. You're going to have accidents no matter what you do. But, it's no worse than going out on a highway."

Still others believed it was part of the danger that astronauts risk on every mission and it is something we have to accept.

"It was a tragic thing, but it was inevitable that it was going to happen someday," Dorothy Gebhardt of Brown Manor said. "Astronauts are always facing danger and it is something they also realize. You keep hoping everything will go well, but in the back of your mind,

you just never know."

Harry LaBar of Shavertown added, "You're worried that sooner or later something like this is going to happen, but you have to keep going. Hey, the Blue Angels keep flying, don't they? But, we have to realize how dangerous all this is. I think Senator (Jake) Garn said he wanted to go up on the Shuttle. Maybe next time we should let him go."

The Tuesday morning incident happened so fast and without warning that NASA officials weren't sure what happened. At first, it was believed that a major malfunction developed when headquarters first viewed what was later described as a "fireball."

Not even spectators, including the students and parents of McAuliffe, were aware of what happened. Cameras showed the parents of the 37-year-old teacher watching the liftoff, but when the explosion occurred, the craft was so high above they could not tell what happened.

Planes and ships were dispatched to the scene where the shuttle landed in the ocean, but all that could be seen were small chunks of floating debris.

PROPERTY TRANSFERS

Peter R. Fischi to Marline A. and Thomas R. Starrie, Sr., 133 Govier St. Wilkes-Barre, Pa. Property - Dallas Twp., 1.902 acres.

Donald Hoover to Hoover Farm Cemetery, R.D. 4, Box 302, Dallas, Pa. Property - Lehman Twp.

Pearl M. Purvin to Pearl M. Pearl, 184 N. Main St., Shavertown, Pa. Property - Kingston Twp., 2 parcels.

Freda M. Graham to Margaret M. Neal A. and White, Box 287 Rt. 29,

Lake Silkworth, Pa. Property - Lehman Twp., 42,900.

Stanley J. Ray to Virginia Carpenter, al, R.D. 1 Box 180, Harvey's Lake, Pa. Property - Harvey's Lake.

Joseph A. Turpak, ux, to Patricia and James E. Bogdan, ux, Box 519-1 R.D. 1, Demunds Rd, Dallas Twp., Pa. Dallas Twp. 2.96 acres.

Anthony Truskowski, ux, to Linda B. Anthony Truskowski, ux, 437 Main St., Dallas, Pa. Property - Dallas, 2 parcels.



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Obituaries

ROBERT TUPPER

Robert T. Tupper, 40, of Angleton, Texas, died January 21 following an accident in Angleton.

Surviving are his wife, Gayle; children, Robert and Brenna; at home; brothers, Carl, Mehoopany; James, Trucksville; and Craig, Dallas.

Funeral services were held January 23 from the Angleton United Methodist Church.

HENRY C. TUCK IV

Henry C. Tuck IV, of Dallas, died January 24, victim of a gunshot wound.

Surviving are his parents, Henry C. Tuck of Dallas; and the former Janet L. Shaver of Dallas; brothers, Daniel L. Tuck, of Sweet Valley; and Andrew G. Tuck, Dallas Township.

Memorial services were held January 27 from the Shavertown United Methodist Church, with The Rev. James Wert, pastor, officiating. Interment, Hollenback Cemetery, Wilkes-Barre.

ROBERT WILLIAMS

Robert L. Williams, 92, of Broadway Road, RD 1, Sweet Valley, died January 26 in Nesbitt Memorial Hospital, Kingston, following an illness.

Surviving are his daughter,

Elaine Williams Jones, Sweet Valley; son, Robert L. William Jr., Fanwood, N.J.; sisters, Mrs. Loretta Wright and Alicia Williams, both of Kingston; Mrs. Dorothy Wasley, Harvey's Lake; seven grandchildren; one great-grandson.

Funeral services will be held today at 10:30 a.m. from the Harold C. Snowdon Funeral Home, 420 Wyoming Ave., Kingston. Interment, Mount Greenwood Cemetery, Trucksville.

ADA DAVIS

Mrs. Ada M. Davis, 87, formerly of RD 3, Dallas, died January 27 in the Meadows Nursing Center, Dallas.

Surviving are her daughter, Mrs. Elmer Reese, Orange; sons, Robert E., Exeter; James J., Chase; 10 grandchildren; five great-grandchildren.

Funeral services will be held January 30 at a time to be announced from the Harold C. Snowdon Funeral Home, 140 N. Main St., Shavertown. Interment will be in Memorial Shrine Cemetery, Carverton. Friends may call today 7 to 9 p.m.

ANDREW CHEWEY

Andrew M. Chewey Jr., 50, of Hareys Lake, died suddenly January 26 in Nesbitt Memorial Hospital,

Kingston.

Surviving are his mother, Elizabeth Simons Chewey, of Larksville; daughters, Mrs. Terry Danks, Harvey's Lake; Mrs. Cheryl Holeman, Dallas; sons, Andrew M. III and Thomas V., both of Shavertown; four grandchildren; sister, Mrs. Dolores Tobin, Mountaintop;

brother, Thomas, Larksville.

Funeral services will be held today at 10 a.m. from the Harold C. Snowdon Funeral Home, 140 N. Main St., Shavertown, with a Mass of Christian Burial at 10:30 a.m. in St. Therese's Church, Shavertown. Interment will be in St. Vincent's Cemetery, Larksville.

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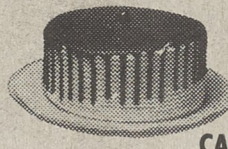
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PASTRY



CAKES

Lifers

(Continued from page 1)

House where they joined en masse with other ralliers.

Among those who supported the demonstrators was President Reagan himself. Speaking via a telephone hook-up between the White House and loud speakers where protestors gathered, Reagan said, "I'm proud to stand with you in the long march for the right to life."

Although the official count estimated a crowd of about 37,000, a bit more than half of last year's total, other reports indicated that the number was closer to 90,000.

"It was monstrous," Carol Sitar of Dallas said. "It was shoulder to shoulder and we met people from

all over. We met people from California, Tennessee, Georgia, Louisiana, there was even a group of about 100 people from Florida who rented a plane for the day and flew down. I don't know how they determine the size of a crowd, but I thought it was larger than last year."

Sitar, who made the trip for the second time, is also the mother of five children and feels very strongly about the support of human life.

"Having children, I know what it is to give birth," she noted. "But we are not only destroying unborn babies; we are destroying ourselves. In no way shape or form should life be eliminated."

— JOHN HOINSKI

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