

## Graham named fellow of healthcare executives group

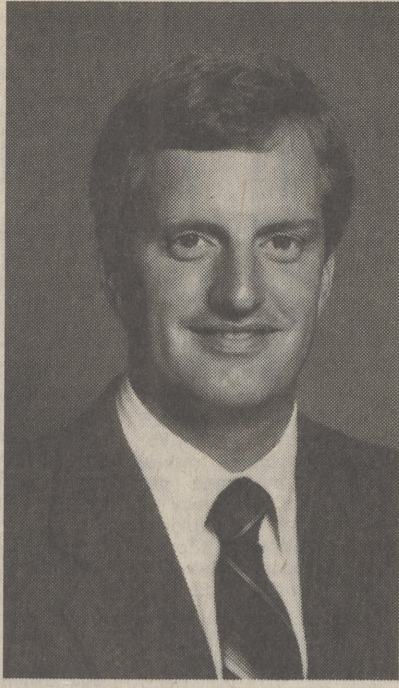
Thomas J. Graham, senior vice president and chief operating officer at Mercy Hospital, Wilkes-Barre, was advanced to fellowship status in the American College of Healthcare Executives at its 54th Convocation Ceremony held August 7 at the New Orleans Hilton Riverside and Towers, New Orleans, Louisiana.

A native of Scranton, Mr. Graham attended the University of Scranton and later received his M.B.A./Hospital and Health Administration degree from Cornell University in Ithaca, New York. He is also a graduate of the Wilkes-Barre Leadership program, Class of 1984.

Mr. Graham's previous healthcare experience includes service as administrator of Nanticoke State General Hospital; assistant administrator of Nesbitt Memorial Hospital, Kingston; administrative director for the Northern Division of the West Jersey Hospital System, Camden, New Jersey; and administrator for the University of Delaware Student Health Service in Newark, Delaware.

In addition to his affiliations with many professional hospital organizations, Mr. Graham serves on numerous local boards and advisory councils, such as Wyoming Valley Alcohol and Drug Services, Inc., and the United Way of Wyoming Valley P.A.-R.D. Committee.

Fellowship is the highest level of professional achievement in the College. Fellows must demonstrate their education, experience and leadership in the healthcare field over a period of several years. They must also complete a significant



Thomas J. Graham

project on a subject related to healthcare management.

The American College of Healthcare Executives is a Chicago-based international professional society representing more than 22,000 healthcare executives. Ceremonies in New Orleans marked the 55th anniversary of the group, which was founded in 1933.

The Convocation also marked the beginning of the society's 54th annual meeting held concurrent with the convention of the American Hospital Association.

Mr. Graham and his wife, Cathy, reside in Dallas with their three children, Tommy, Michael and Caitlin.



### Water safety taught

A "Learn-to-swim" program was recently sponsored by the American Red Cross, Wyoming Chapter, at the Cominsky pool, Dallas. Pictured are those who participated. Seated, on deck: Ryan Stredny, Brian Patts, Tracie Patts, Kevin Arnaud, Jessalyn Cool, Julie Howell, Melissa Howell. Sitting on board: Aria Vaida, Marc Macialek, Aaron Stredny, C. J. Coburn, Megan McGilvrey. Standing on board: Steve Tomasura, Laura Macialek, Chris Arnaud, Kevin Frank. Standing on deck: Sheri Redmond, Ashley Montross, Brian Gibbons, Kelly Gibbons, Joe Czopek, instructor, Pete Przekop, instructor aide.

### Service notes

Cadet Richard J. Malak, son of Army Sgt. 1st Class Richard J. and Kathleen W. Malak of 1771 Huntsville Road, Shavertown, received practical work in military leadership at the U.S. Army ROTC advanced camp, Fort Bragg, N.C. Malak is a student at Pennsylvania State University, State College.

Cadet Michell K. Haggerty, daughter of Mary A. Cramton of 177 Oak St., Trucksville; and James P. Haggerty of 429 N. Main St., Plains, received practical work in military leadership at the U.S. Army

ROTC advanced camp, Fort Bragg, N.C.

Haggerty is a student at Roger Williams College, Bristol, R.I., and attends ROTC at Providence College, R.I.

Marine Pfc. Nickie T. Long, son of Richard E. and Catherine W. Long of 142 E. Center Hill Road, Dallas, recently completed the Automotive Organizational Mechanic Course.

A 1987 graduate of Dallas Senior High School, he joined the Marine Corps in December 1987.

## Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Bond celebrate golden anniversary

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Bond of Valley View Park, Dallas, observed their golden wedding anniversary August 9. They were married by the Rev. Herbert Hoyes of the First P.M. Church, Plymouth.

A surprise dinner reception was held in honor of the occasion at the American Legion Home in Wilkes-Barre by Mr. and Mrs. Robert Hawkins of Edison, N.J. (sister and brother-in-law of Mrs. Bond).

Mrs. Bond is the former Millie Heverly, daughter of the late Gertrude and Carl Heverly of Kingston.

Mr. Bond is the son of the late Elizabeth and Joseph Bond of Plymouth.



Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Bond

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## Misericordia to offer \$4000 scholarships to "flood babies"

Most people in the Wyoming Valley would rather forget the summer of 1972. Hurricane Agnes and the devastation that it caused. But for 32 unique families, that flood holds some happy memories.

For amidst the fear and destruction of the worst natural disaster to hit this area, 52 babies got their start in life through the cooperation of Nesbitt Memorial Hospital and College Misericordia.

As the Susquehanna River continued to overflow its banks, officials at Nesbitt Memorial Hospital realized something had to be done to maintain a secure medical facility. A call to the president of Misericordia at that time, Sr. Miriam Teresa O'Donnell, elicited an immediate approval to move into the college's facilities. Within hours, Nesbitt Memorial Hospital had established a 100-bed center at the College complete with a cardiac care unit, intensive care unit, operating room, emergency treatment facility, x-ray department and obstetrics unit.

Sixteen years later, Nesbitt Memorial Hospital and College Misericordia are joining together again to bring these families, employees and volunteers together to celebrate the teenagers' birth. The organizations plan to honor the teens on Saturday, Aug. 27 on the campus of College Misericordia. Events include a complimentary picnic and live, open-air performance of Shakespeare's "A Midsummer Night's Dream," by a cast of professional actors.

Nesbitt Memorial Hospital administrator John D. Francis points out that this celebration will bring back memories for not only the families of these children, but for the many hospital employees, physicians and volunteers who worked at the College. "Nesbitt Memorial Hospital is a family hospital. These children and their families became a part of our family during those most unusual circumstances of Hurricane Agnes," said Francis.

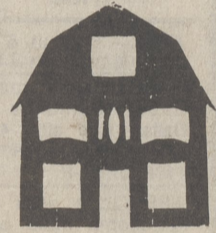
"We are planning an evening of informal fun and celebration for everyone," said Dr. Bruce Wilson, Misericordia's executive vice president. "This is going to be an exciting, once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to reestablish old acquaintances and look to the future. We feel we have a vested interest in the outcome of the lives of these young adults."

As a result of the commitment to help these teenagers get the best possible start in life, Misericordia is extending a special birthday gift.

"College Misericordia will award \$4,000/four-year scholarships to any of these special children who meet normal admissions requirements and choose to attend Misericordia following their senior year of high school," added Wilson. "We take pride in preparing young adults with a well-rounded education that will carry them through their chosen career paths. We want to extend that opportunity to our 'Flood Family.'"

"Tragedies have an unusual way of bonding people together," said Dr. Wilson. "The flood disaster was a dramatic episode in a lasting friendship between our two organizations. We believe that there are many people who were affected by this situation who still maintain close ties with friends or relatives who have moved out of the area."

Although birth records were kept during the flood, nearly half of the families involved have moved out of the area in the 16 years since the children's births. Representatives of Nesbitt Memorial Hospital are attempting to locate as many of these special children as possible to issue personal invitations to the party. Anyone who may still be in contact with families who have left the area are encouraged to make them aware of the birthday celebration and scholarship opportunity. For more information, contact Karen Rogers, Community Relations director at Nesbitt Memorial Hospital at (717) 288-1411, Ext. 4025.



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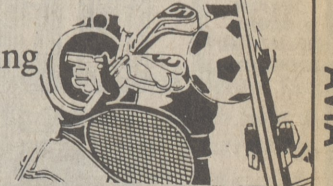
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