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Boston University



**Boston
University
Medical
Campus**

Campus UPDATE

February 1992 Vol. 4 No. 1



Harrison Court to offer modern, secure housing near BUMC

Boston University is developing 60 secure, modern apartments across from the School of Medicine on Harrison Avenue for the students, faculty and staff of the Medical Center community.

The residences are being built in a rehabilitated 19th-century building that is part of the former Boston College High School. Renovation of the elegant building, which has been named Harrison Court, began last fall and is expected to be completed by Aug. 1 1992.

Harrison Court will be composed of studios and one- and two-bedroom apartments. Each unit will have a modern kitchen and bathroom and hook-ups for a washing machine and electric dryer. A coin-operated laundry facility will be located in the building for the exclusive use of Harrison Court residents.

A private courtyard will give the building's residents a peaceful and relaxing place to enjoy the outdoors. Secure parking at Harrison Court will be available for an additional cost. Public transportation is easily accessible, and the Medical Center's security escort service will be available. □

Rental information

Call the Medical Center Office of Rental Property Management at 1-800-344-BUMC (2862) to learn more about:

- rents for specific units
- floor-plan selection
- assistance in finding a roommate

Monthly rents for shared units are expected to range from \$490 to \$640 per person depending on the type of unit and the number of people occupying the unit. Single-occupancy studios will have a higher monthly rent. The units, which range from studios to two-bedroom units, will be rented on a one-year lease basis. Medical Center staff people will be available to help plan summer sublets. □



Harrison Court



On hand to participate in the ribbon-cutting ceremony to commemorate the opening of the new biomedical research building at 609 Albany Street were BUSM Dean Aram V. Chobanian, Boston University President John Silber, Barbara Gilcrest, M.D., head of the Department of Dermatology, and Spencer N. Frankl, dean of the School of Graduate Dentistry.

Dedication of biomedical research building signals new era of growth

Boston University President John Silber helped cut the ribbon on Tuesday, Jan. 14, to the new biomedical research building at 609 Albany Street. The dedication marks a new chapter in the growth of the Medical Center along Albany Street: Across the street, piles are being driven for a 180,000-square-foot BUSM medical research building, the first structure in BUMC's University Associates development, which will be constructed over the next 10 years. (See story, page 2).

The new building at 609 Albany Street represents a major commitment by the private sector to support basic research. Sponsors of the research being conducted in the new facility include Christian Dior Inc. and seven other companies. Funding also is being provided by the National Institutes of Health.

In his dedication address, Silber said the collaborative effort is a demonstration of the cooperation that is necessary in today's tough economy. He noted that in the new building, BUSM researchers will be free to "fulfill their life's work" in the advancement of basic science and research. Five floors house the Department of Dermatology, which is laying the basic-science groundwork for potential breakthroughs in a number of areas, including the prevention of malignant melanomas and the prevention of aging of the skin. The department also conducts one of the country's most extensive programs in human pigment cell biology, according to BUSM Dean Aram V. Chobanian, M.D. The building also provides research space for the Goldman School's Department of Biomaterials. □

Commuters, take note:

The destinations of the two evening shuttle buses have been swapped. The larger red Boston University bus now takes commuters to the Broadway T-station, while the smaller white bus takes people to the parking lots. This change makes the afternoon routes of the shuttle buses consistent with the morning ones. □

Anatomy of a building

Construction begins on new biomedical research building

During the next two years, members of the Medical Center community will have the opportunity to watch the step-by-step construction of the Center for Advanced Biomedical Research, the first building under development in the planned University Associates medical complex along Albany Street.

Campus Update invites its readers to keep abreast of the progression of the construction through the periodic accounts that will appear here. From the earliest

stage of excavation to the rising of structural steel to the application of the finishing touches, we will be providing insight into the way in which the building is constructed.

For the last five weeks, workers have been doing the preliminary work for constructing the foundation of the building. This has involved driving 16-inch concrete piles 110 feet into the earth and pouring concrete pile caps over clusters of them. These pile caps serve as the base for the columns

of structural steel that will be set upon them.

In carrying out the pile-driving process, geotechnical and structural engineers first determined how deep the piles should be hammered into the earth. The decision was based on a determination of the degree of pressure that the building will bring to bear on the piles and the amount of friction that will be created on the side of the piles, as well as on the tip end bearing.

Reinforced concrete grade beams will be formed and poured between the pile caps, and the structural slab on grade will be placed atop that. The building has no basement.

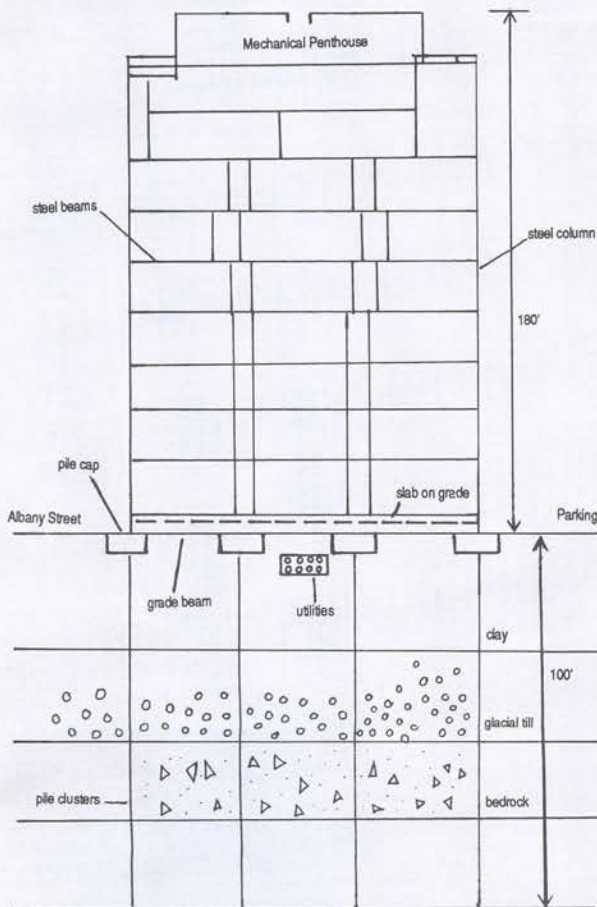
Prior to placing the structural slab on grade, all the

underground utilities must be installed in various utility trenches. Erection of structural steel is scheduled to start in April 1992 and will be completed in the late summer of 1992.

The construction consultant representing the Medical Center for the building project is Lars Ivarson. Fred Barrett, the project manager for the Boston University Medical Campus, coordinates the day-to-day construction operations.

The 180,000-square-foot research building, due to be completed in late 1993, will house School of Medicine and Goldman School of Graduate Dentistry biomedical laboratories and offices. Part of the first floor will have retail shops. □

The Center for Advanced Biomedical Research



Extended fiber-optic cabling offers more departments links to networks

Several additional buildings at the Medical Campus now have the fiber-optic cabling that provides departments with the physical capacity to hook into the Medical Campus and Charles River Campus computer networks, as well as to Internet, a worldwide academic-science database network. The fiber-optic cabling, which has been operational in the Instructional Building (L Building) and the Housman Research Center (R Building) for the last year, now extends to the new biomedical research building at 609 Albany Street, the first four floors of the Goldman School of Graduate Dentistry and the School of Public Health (A Building). The Silvio O. Conte building (K Building) is expected to have cabling installed within the next six months. Cabling is also planned for the Center for Advanced Biomedical Re-

search, which is under construction across Albany Street. (See story above.)

The cabling gives the departments that are in these buildings the potential to tap into the network resources. To actually gain access to these networks, however, several additional steps must be taken. Departments' computers must use the same language/protocol as the network computers, and they must have authorization to communicate through the network, which is gained using codes and passwords. Departments interested in achieving this access should contact Graham Ward, director of the Medical Campus Office of Information Technology (OIT). Ward can be reached at 638-8854 (x8854). The cost for the connection is paid for by the departments or the individual investigators requesting it. □

BCH pediatric team's efforts are sparking early interest in books

Boston University physicians, early childhood educators and volunteers in the Pediatric Primary Care Center at Boston City Hospital have undertaken a mission that extends well beyond trying to monitor and tend to the physical health of infants and toddlers. Under an innovative program called ROAR, begun in March 1989, they have taken on the task of trying to spark young children's interest in books and to impress upon parents the importance of reading for their children's mental development.

The pediatricians, in collaboration with early child-

hood educators, have incorporated this effort into their medical examination sessions with the children and attending parents. At each of the 12 regular checkups during a child's first six years, the physician gives the child a book to keep. By integrating this gesture into the normal examination, the physician is able to develop a discussion about the impact reading can have or is having on a child's development. A supplement to this effort takes place in the waiting room, where volunteers staff the office full time to read books to interested children. There is also a bookshelf in the waiting

room that the children may use.

This innovative literacy program is designed to use the pediatric visit to prompt an interest in books among families whose children are at risk for reading failure.

"Our approach is based on the belief that parents improve their children's chances of successfully learning to read and write by providing appropriate language stimulation from early age and that pediatricians can play an important role helping parents do so,"

Books

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Dianne Cabral, administrative assistant for Associate Dean Daniel Bernstein, reviews the literature on tips for quitting smoking, offered to employees and students by the Medical Campus Office of Personnel in early January. The Medical Campus established a smoke-free policy in its buildings on Jan. 1.

Two Medical Campus employees honored as Black Achievers

Two members of the Medical Campus community were honored as Black Achievers on Jan. 15, under the Greater Boston YMCA Black Achievers Program. The program, now in its 16th year, is intended to promote the recognition of accomplished black employees and to foster the development of minority youth by exposing them to these positive role models.

The Medical Campus, the Evans Medical Foundation and the University Hospital have participated in the program for the last six years. Marguerita Eastmond, a senior secretary in the Office of Student Financial Management at the School of Medicine, and Billy C. Rover, D.M.D., a clinical instructor in the Department of Operative Dentistry at the Goldman School of Graduate Dentistry, were the 1992 recipients of this honor from the Medical Campus.

Under the YMCA program, Black Achievers agree to be matched with students in the Greater Boston

area to serve as their mentors for a year. During this time, they are expected to fulfill a minimum commitment of 40 hours of volunteer time. Nominations for Medical Campus recipients of the award are made by deans, department chairpersons, directors and principal investigators of departments.

To honor those recognized at the Medical Campus, the University Hospital and the Evans Medical Foundation, and to focus attention on the importance of such leadership in the black community, the Medical Center held its annual recognition program. Keynote speaker Ken Reeves, the mayor of Cambridge, spoke on the theme "Back to our roots: the family." Opening remarks were made by School of Medicine Dean Aram V. Chobanian, Weldon S. Lloyd, D.Sc., associate director of admissions at the School of Graduate Dentistry, and Jacqueline Dart, executive vice president for operations for The University Hospital. The BUMC



Marguerita Eastmond

choir performed a number of musical selections.

Eastmond, who has worked for the School for three years and has been promoted, is active in her church and in the West In-



Billy C. Rover, D.M.D.

dian community. She is a gourmet cook and a fashion consultant. Rover teaches dental operation procedures, as well as diagnosis and treatment planning. □

The Department of Dermatology is now completely moved into its quarters in the new biomedical research building at 609 Albany Street.

Please note the following information concerning the department:

Main telephone number:
638-5500 (x5500)

fax number:
638-5515 (x5515)

Mailing address:
Department of Dermatology
Building J, 80 East Concord Street, Boston, MA 02118

Books

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said Robert Needlman, M.D., a co-director of ROAR.

The importance of prompting an early interest in reading is grounded in strong evidence that children not exposed to books at an early age struggle academically in elementary school. Research indicates that more than 25 percent of inner-city children suffer from significant reading delays, a plight that stems from a number of factors.

The results of a study conducted by Needlman and a number of other physicians and educators concluded that the literacy intervention offered by the BCH clinic significantly increases children's interest in books. The program is funded by a number of private foundations and the books given away by the clinic are bought at discount from booksellers or are donated. The books are culturally sensitive to the patients who attend the clinic.

By integrating books into the clinic visit, physicians

are able to use them as a diagnostic tool for assessing a child's behavioral development. In watching a child's response to a book, the physician can observe his response to novelty, attention and language, his fine motor skills development, and his social interaction with the parent.

The physician can make such insights by watching the way in which a child holds and turns the pages (fine motor skills), whether an infant is interested in looking at photographs of other infants (social skills), his oral language development (how he verbally responds to the book) and his need to control the book (indicative of his need for autonomy and control).

The exercise also can help the physician to communicate with the parent about the importance of encouraging reading at home. If, for instance, a child shows interest in a book, or is able to open it and turn the pages, the physician can point out to the parent that this indicates the child is alert and functioning well. Such positive feedback to

the parents provides effective reinforcement about the importance of encouraging their children's interest in reading. Because of the limited literacy of many of the clinic's parents, or their restriction to a foreign language, the pediatricians stress that holding the child on one's lap, looking at pictures together and talking with the child are the most important ingredients of "book-sharing." If the physician observes a parent's discomfort with books because of illiteracy or a bad association with school, she or he can refer the parent to adult literacy programs.

The interaction concerning the book also enables the physician to observe the

parent's behavior toward the child. The parent may demonstrate pleasure at the child's interest in the book or may display a need to overcontrol the situation or push the child too severely.

Needlman said he is heartened by the results of the program and urges people to volunteer their time as readers or to contribute money or books to the program. "When we pediatricians team up with early childhood educators and volunteers, we can have a significant effect on young children's chances for successful reading," he said

Those interested in volunteering should call coordinator Karolyn Kirkjien-Jones at 534-7548. □

Electronic security consolidated

The Medical Campus Office of Security has consolidated all cameras and monitors formerly located in the Medical Center Control Center into its new office in the basement of the new research building at 609 Albany Street.

All electronic security

for the Medical Campus is now based in an electronics console, which controls all card-access systems, and cameras throughout the Medical Campus.

All security office personnel will be relocated soon to the Albany Street headquarters. □

You say potato!
New feature at CHEQUERS



CHEQUERS is proud to announce the latest addition to its menu: a Baked Potato Bar. Top your baked potato with the traditional butter and sour cream or go wild with broccoli and cheese, chili, bacon, stir fried vegetables and more!!

CHEQUERS
School of Medicine
lower level

Monday - Thursday
7 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Friday, 7 a.m. - 3 p.m.



Just before Christmas, a \$400 check was donated to the Boston City Hospital Kids' Fund by Medical Campus groundsman Tyrone Crumble and lead custodian Larry Mastrangelo. Robert Vinci, M.D., a physician in the hospital's Department of Pediatrics and an assistant professor of pediatrics at the School, received the check on behalf of the fund. The money was received through the proceeds of refunds from recycled soda cans, which can be put in bins in the Chequer's cafeteria, the Rite Bite Cafe and in various classrooms. Facilities Management Director Craig Lazenby (left) and William J. Gasper, associate vice president for Business Affairs for the Medical Campus, look on.