Carolyn Wright has been a nurse for 46 years, 37 of those years spent at NVRH, after graduating from the Mary Fletcher School of Nursing (what is now Fletcher Allen in Burlington) in 1964. Nursing school was 3 years and Carolyn loved it.

After working at The Darling Inn and Littleton Hospital, Carolyn went to work at The Brightlook Hospital. The Brightlook Hospital and the St. Johnsbury Hospital closed, replaced by NVRH, built on land that would allow for easier expansion. The hospital opened on February 14th, 1972; Carolyn came to work at NVRH in March, 1973 and she’s been here ever since.

Carolyn has seen many, many physical changes to the building. Med/Surg used to be the top two floors; she has witnessed virtually every department move except for the Emergency Department and the cafeteria. For 15 years, Carolyn worked in Med/Surg/Pediatrics and for the past 22 years, she’s worked in Day Surgery. It’s a great deal of fun to look at Carolyn’s face when she describes the DS unit going computerized in March, 1998. Imagine it! No computer at home and the machines were slow and much more cumbersome than they are these days and that was only 12 years ago. There’s a great deal more automation in nursing now, from blood pressure cuffs to dispensing medication. Fortunately, the DS unit comraderie and professional relationships have always been strong; Carolyn has always felt well supported by the hospital.

She’s plays an integral role in the Ambulatory Angels (the name was suggested by a patient) the fundraising crew from Day Surgery who faithfully raises money all year long for the Relay for Life. The team started six years ago; “the Relay is very special, very moving,” states Carolyn.

Carolyn’s husband, Perley, is a retired middle school math teacher. The two of them are a familiar sight, since they are at every event to support the hospital, from the dedication of the Diagnostic Imaging wing, to the Day Surgery unit, to the farm day at Harvest Hill Farm in Walden (NVRH’s employee Community Supported Agriculture program), to auxiliary lunches. Carolyn’s face lights up when she describes the professional and personal friends she’s made at the hospital. “NVRH is so supportive – I’ve always felt very wanted,” she states unequivocally. “And, the growth of the hospital and campus is so exciting.”

Perley and Carolyn raised three children: Peter, Jay and Julie. Carolyn and Perley are looking forward to spending more time with their children and grandchildren.
who lives in Waterford; Corinne (8) and Teddy (7) who live in Maryland; and Andrew (12), David (11), Grace (8), Katie (4½) and Rosemary (3) who live in Fairfax.

Besides grandchildren, reading, gardening, walking, and swimming, Carolyn and Perley’s retreat on Neal’s pond in Lunenburg is looming invitingly. The place was bought by Carolyn’s parents in the 50’s, and after rebuilding it to their ideal specifications, they spend as much time as possible there.

It’s probably tough when everyone is constantly asking Carolyn what she’s going to do with her time upon retirement. When I asked her, she looked at me and said, “I really have no plans – I’m just looking forward to more time off and relaxing.”

Nurses are nourishing. They are givers by nature. Carolyn, thanks for the giving, and enjoy your time with family and friends.

P.S. You’ll see Carolyn around, since she is working per diem.

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Verna, Fred and Carolyn at the Valentine’s Day Ambulatory Angels bake sale.

Carolyn holding a large beet from the CSA field day to Harvest Hill Farm in Walden last fall.

Verna, Linda and Carolyn, long-time water aerobic buddies.

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The Nightingale Tribute to Penny Penniman

who volunteered 9,000 hours to NVRH

June 17, 1925 - April 25, 2010

Nursing is a calling, a lifestyle a way of living.
Nurses here today honor Penny and her life as a nurse.

Penny is not remembered by her many years as a nurse,
but by the difference she made during those years by stepping into people’s lives . . . by special moments.

She Was There

When a calming, quiet presence was all that was needed,
She was there.

In the excitement and miracle of birth or in the mystery and loss of life,
She was there.

When a silent glance could uplift a patient, family member or friend,
She was there.

At those times when the unexplainable needed to be explained,
She was there.

When the situation demanded a swift foot and sharp mind,
She was there.

When a gentle touch, a firm push, or an encouraging word was needed,
She was there.

In choosing the best one from a family’s Thank You box of chocolates,
She was there.

To witness humanity - its beauty, in good times and bad, without judgment,
She was there.

To embrace the woes of the world, willingly, and offer hope,
She was there.

And now, that it is time to be at the Greater One’s side,
She was there.

Penny, we honor you this day and give you a white rose to symbolize our honor and appreciation for being our colleague.

c. 2004 Duane Jaeger, RN, MSN
MAY 6–12 IS NATIONAL nurses’ WEEK

NVRH encourages all of its nurses to focus on furthering their education and staying in touch with the latest and most current developments in patient care.

Thank you to each of Northeastern Vermont Regional Hospital’s dedicated, caring and talented nurses for providing exceptional care to our neighbors and friends in the Northeast Kingdom.

Leadership

Kate Aldrich
Debra Bach
Mary Bailey
Sharon Baker
Danielle Ball
Phil Barrs
Rebecca Bonski
James Becker
Nancy Benitez
Cathleen Besch
Debra Bixby
Rosemary Boothby
Kathy Bradley
Doreen Brado
Beth Burrington
Barbara Byrne
Edna Cardinal
Mollie Chamberlain
Connie Charron
Joanne Chaisson
Gen Cipolla
Nancy Cohen
Michael Colbeth
Linda Comfort
Erica Conaway
Natalie Cooper
Tonya Crapo
Kim Darby
Jill Davidson
Laurie Despins
Cheryl Deuel
Vicki Dill
Clare Dolan
Christine Douglas
Michelle Downing
Sue Dukett
Jonathan Dupuis
Lisa Dyke
Janice Gj
Marie Flood
Bonnie Fontaine
Darlene Fountain
George Fry
Rae Fraser
Doris French
Yvonne Fuller
Jaime Gadwha
Ann Gallagher
Linda Garey
Sarah Garey
Margaret Gaughan
Paula Geil
Jane Goodwin Page
Terry Lee Gosselin
Terry Gray
Gloria Greenwood
Anne Guy
Megan Hoygood
Tina Heck
Bonnie Henson
Colleen Hensley
Beth Hetzel
David Hetzel
Erlene Hill
Carol Hodges
Susan Hoffman
Dorothy Holden
Mary Howland
Virginia Hudson
Kimberly Humphrey
Linda Hunsks
Verohca Hyvola
Sandra Jorgensen
Vickie Jenkins
Elaine Jewell
Annette Jones
Winnie Jones
Amy Joid
Deborah Keen
Kathy Kerber
Lori Kosowski
Lynn Kostur
Vivian Kremer
Donna Lofgren
Jessie Lomas
Susan Langmaid
Jeffrey Lawson
Deb Lawler
Anne Leong
Kelly Lemieux
Valerie Lemaux
Roger Leroche
Norah Lewis
June Liebl
Alden Littlefield
Elaine Luther
Sharon Mallett
Kathleen Mans
Brian Marsh
Christine Marcotte
Cynthia Martin
Simone Mason
Chelsea Matthews
Vicki Matthews
Diane Matthews
Donald McCaffrey
Anniko McCann
Margaret McGandy
Loretta Merrell
Marykua Miller
Mel Money
Colleen Moore de Ortiz
Carol Moore-Whitney
Jennifer Morrison
Deborah Morse
Darcie Nash
Sandra Nitti
Jeannine Nuss
Joanne O’Hare
Janice Oliver
Erika Owen
Jonnie Owen
Monique Perce
Pam Possi
Isaac Puch
Jennifer Peterson
Stephanie Porter
Agnieza Provost
Marlene Quilliam
Elizabeth Rahn
Connie Raths
Kruszyn
Catherine Reese
Leah Redford
Kathy Roa
Kathryn Roosa
Shari Ross
I. Margaret Rowlett
Carroll Rowlett
Janice Santag"o
Michael Scanlon
Mitya Schope
Amanda Seymour
Wendy Scroard
Colleen Simons
Pam Smart
Debra Smith
Pam Smith
Lauren Sophman
Holly Spaulding
Judith Spencer
Sarah Springsteen
Vette St. Hilaire
Jennifer Stanling
Susan Steele
Cindy Taylor
Rebecca Taylor
Joanne Temple
Judy Thielman
Christine Thompson
Peter Tomczyk
Anne Tomes-Kubickie
Amanda Truscott
Cynthia Turner
Dolores Vieira
Louise Vinton
Cynthia Waidner
Carolyn Walko
Katherine Walters
Carolee Wood
Linda Wells
Judith Wheeler
Karri Willy
Carolyn Wright
Deb Yonker
Mary Young
Elizabeth Zorn

We treat you like family.

NORTHEASTERN VERMONT REGIONAL HOSPITAL

HOSPITAL DRIVE, ST. JOHNSBURY, VERMONT
Local **March for Babies** Kick-off held at Northeastern Vermont Regional Hospital:

Roger Clapp, Executive Director of the Vermont Chapter of the March of Dimes and Carol Moore-Whitney, RN in the Birth Center talk at the March of Dimes kick-off event for the St. Johnsbury March For Babies walk being held on Sunday, May 16th.

The March of Dimes is also a supporter of the **Late Pre-term Birth** initiative, which is a project to avoid early births (between 36-37 weeks gestation; full term pregnancy is 38 weeks).

Moore-Whitney is a member of the group at NVRH creating a “standardized order set” for all infants born at the hospital before a full term gestation of 38 weeks. Children born before full term are at increased risk for respiratory distress, jaundice, hypoglycemia and temperature instability. They have higher rates for readmission or extended hospitalizations for jaundice, feeding difficulties and dehydration. NVRH’s goals are to evaluate the hospital’s date of late preterm births, avoid early births for non-medical reasons and to standardize care of all babies born early to minimize complications.

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**Services & Programs**

**Ever Wonder About All the Ways Tobacco Hurts Our World?**

**Tobacco hurts smokers:** it is the leading cause of preventable death. Every year, worldwide, more than 5 million people die because of tobacco.

**Tobacco hurts workers:** Workers who handle wet tobacco leaves can absorb the nicotine through their skin. This can cause headaches, dizziness and nausea.

**Tobacco smoke hurts nonsmokers:** Every year thousands of people get sick or die from illnesses caused by secondhand smoke.

**Tobacco takes space that could be used to grow food:** Farmers could feed 10-20 million people every year with food grown on the land used for tobacco crops.

**Secondhand smoke and pets:** Cats and dogs that breathe secondhand smoke can get lung cancer. Birds may have breathing problems if they live in a home with tobacco smoke.

**Tobacco hurts forests:** In many places here tobacco is grown, the forests are cut down. Farmers burn the wood to dry their tobacco crops. When forests are cut down, wild animals lose their homes. Cigarettes can also cause fires. One of the world’s worst forest fires was caused by a cigarette.

**Tobacco makes toxic trash:** When cigarette butts wash into the rivers, lakes and oceans, their toxic chemicals can kill fish and other small water creatures. Most cigarette filters are made of plastic fibers. When animals eat them by mistake, they can get very ill and even die.

**The cost of smoking:** Worldwide, billions of dollars are spent each year to deal with the problems caused by tobacco.

**Please Celebrate World No Tobacco Day on May 31, 2010 by protecting our planet from tobacco**
NVRH Art Show

Vicky Valentine, second grader at the Burke Town School, is one of 90 young artists from 9 area schools featured in the NVRH Art Gallery. The art show titled “Movement” was coordinated by the NVRH Arts Committee and is on display on the first floor main hallway of the hospital until June 5. Pictured with Vicky is father Kevin (left), brother Matthew, and NVRH CEO Paul Bengtson.

On Saturday, April 17th, NVRH hosted a babysitting training class, taught by certified trainers from the American Red Cross. Nineteen children completed the course, designed to give boys and girls the safety skills and confidence to be great babysitters. Information and skills covered included: how to feed, care for, and play with children, accident prevention, first aid, how to handle emergencies, illness and household accidents, as well as what is good leadership, decision-making and role modeling. The course was made possible due to the generosity of Dr. Katherine Silloway, DDS.

Fit and Healthy Donation
Rebecca McGregor, Dance Instructor at Lyndon Institute, presents a check to members of the Fit and Healthy Coalition at their April meeting. The Lyndon Institute Dance Company, St. Johnsbury Ballet Studio, Dance Express, and dancers from Lamoille Valley Union High School performed a recital to benefit the Coalition. All proceeds will be used to support a program or service in the community to help children or families be more physically active. From left: Nelson Baker, Shauna Brittell, Catherine Cusack, Rebecca McGregor, Joe Fox, Laural Ruggles.
MEET THE TEAM FROM THE LAUNDRY

Submitted by Jim Coulson

In the small city that is our community hospital there are a few departments that never quite get the recognition they deserve for the work they do. Perhaps if some statistics were better known the Laundry department would be seen proportional to the weight of the clean product they produce. How about 1200 pounds of laundry a day that is retrieved from all the areas of the hospital each day by the three full time and one part-time personnel that work in the department? That number translates into 420,000 pounds a year, which is up from the mere 260,000 a year when the laundry department was brought in-house in 1988 after being done at Palmers in St. Johnsbury.

The variety of laundry done is as staggering as the weight: sheets (draw sheets, baby sheets, fitted sheets and flat sheets), diapers, towels, washcloths, bed pads, pillowcases, bathrobes, blankets, johnnies (4 kinds), mammogram coats and laundry bags. The recent addition of cloth napkins placed on patient trays is a new addition to the inventory. That is a lot of material to process in a day but the NVRH laundry services more than just our facility: Physical Therapy (both the Sherman Drive office and Lyndonville), all the physicians offices owned by NVRH, the Norris Cotton Cancer Center, occupational Medicine and the specialty clinics. The hospital also contracts with St. Johnsbury Academy to do their laundry. Lisa Bijolle, Supervisor of the Laundry Department, says that during the summer when the Academy is hosting their various programs on campus they are kept quite busy! In addition, if a patient needs clothing cleaned prior to discharge, the Laundry department is happy to accommodate them.

The routine for gathering the laundry appears to run as precisely as everything else you would expect from a quality conscious department. Every day at 7, 9, 10:30, 12, 1:30 and finally at 2:30 the members of the laundry team make their rounds to various places throughout the hospital to deliver and pick up a hundred pounds or more of laundry. The familiar wheeled carts are brought down to laundry into the area reserved for “dirty” laundry. The laundry is weighed and placed into the new laundry machines that were purchased last year. The word industrial strength does nothing to describe these behemoths that look like something made for an aircraft carrier! They cycle through a load in a half hour for light washes and 45 minutes for the standard load and can process 125 pounds in each washer. The detergents used do not need to be measured but instead are mounted in a holder on the wall. The chemicals are in a solid form and are designed to have some of the water move through, taking the amount necessary for the load. There is one smaller washer (in comparison to the large twins) that appears to be about the size of the largest washer seen in a standard laundromat. After coming out of the washers, the wet material is pushed through a one-way door into the dryer room. Here 3 large dryers are constantly running to meet the demand of the department. A hoped for renovation /expansion with an additional dryer as well as room for another of the “small” washers will make a big difference in their capacity, according to Lisa. The heat of this room as well as that of the adjacent ironing room often exceeds 90 degrees in the summer and extra space as well as increased ventilation will go a long way toward overall improvement of the department. After the drying cycles are complete, everything needs to be folded and/or stacked. All the draw sheets, flat sheets and pillowcases get ironed in the newly overhauled ironing machine. Looking vaguely similar to a loom, the sheets are fed in and twist and curve their way through the contraption to the waiting hands that then fold the hot and crisp sheets. All the now clean and fresh smelling laundry is stacked in carts to make their way back to departments and waiting beds, stretchers, pillows and patients.

The small department has employees with numerous years of experience that tend to the aforementioned tasks. Supervisor Lisa has 15 years in at NVRH but some of those were in the Housekeeping Department. Nancy Pray started at the hospital in 2002 in the cafeteria but has been in laundry for 6 years. Joni Charron, the newcomer in the department, has been here for 7 months. Alice Davis, who is a 12 year veteran, is a part time employee while Rita Pelkey is a per diem with 4 years experience that also works in 3 other departments. Pete Gummere of Material Management oversees management responsibilities of the department. There are a few volunteers.

Alice, Lisa and Joni model one of the huge washing machines.

The ironer.
that also lend a hand with the folding of the clean materials and, as with numerous other areas of the hospital, their help is invaluable.

There have been some positive environmental impacts within the department over the years. When it was discovered that the bleach used was made using a process involving a mercury electrode, a switch was made to a product made without the use of the element in keeping with the goal of the hospital to be as free from mercury as is reasonably possible. Periodically, consideration is given to the financial impact of sustaining the laundry business at NVRH. Each time it is found that not only is it cost effective to keep the business here, but it prevents the use of numerous barrels of diesel fuel that it would take to ship the tons of laundry to a distant destination such as Dartmouth or Rutland, to say nothing of the increased inventory to keep on hand to sustain the needs of the facility while large portions of it were “on the road” and “in process”.

Incidentally, keeping adequate stock of materials is always a problem, as there always seems to be a certain amount of sheets, johnnies and pillowcases that leave the facility. Some of it literally leaves with (and on) the patient as they are transferred and transported to another facility. Some of it makes its way back or is “exchanged” with other incoming patients but it seems to be more of a negative impact than a net gain.

Many of us get to leave our job at the door of the hospital when we leave in the evening. For some employees going home to take care of their home means more of the same: laundry needs to be done even after hot and busy days at the hospital laundry. Lisa and Nancy laugh and say that its true that there are some days when they just don’t want to face the chore at home too. The two agree that keeping to a strict once-a-week schedule seems to make it a reasonable task. Perhaps being a bit more aware and “weight conscious” of the work of this hard-working department will help all the other members of the NVRH family become more appreciative of the daily tasks these employees contribute to the quality of our facility. Conservation can be accomplished in many ways and the careful use of linens can make a large impact both environmentally and for this department.

Auxiliary/Volunteer
NEWS
by Pat Forest, Volunteer Coordinator

Over 50 people attended the 2010 National Volunteer Week Brunch held in the NVRH conference rooms. The volunteers were greeted with fresh floral arrangements adorning the tables. The NVRH Dietary Department provided a wonderful buffet; thank you for your efforts. It was a wonderful time to get to know each other and see all the other volunteers at NVRH. Both CEO, Paul Bengtson and I thanked the volunteers for their service and invited them to enjoy the meal. NVRH volunteers gave over 17,000 hours of time last year.

Up Coming Events:

Bag All - Wednesday May 12 from 9:30am - 4pm in conference room 127.

Auxiliary Meeting (Scholastic Achievement Awards) will be held on May 14. Dinner at 6pm in the cafeteria with the meeting beginning at 6:30 pm in conference rooms 126 & 127. In addition to the Scholastic Achievement Awards we will draw the winners of the Annual Auxiliary Raffle with a $300.00 grand prize, $200.00 second prize, $100.00 third prize and a $50.00 fourth prize. We will also have merchandise and certificates from local businesses that will be awarded. Tickets will be on sale until just before the drawing.

New Hampshire Association of Hospital Auxiliaries will hold their Spring Focus meeting on May 20th in Concord, NH. Anyone interested in attending should sign up at the main information desk.
Paul Lister has been a speech pathologist for 39 years; for 29 of those years, he’s been seeing patients at NVRH. He owns his own speech pathology business, and deeply appreciates the convenience of seeing patients at the hospital.

As a speech pathologist, he diagnoses and treats disorders of communication and swallowing, working with people who have, for example, impairments from stroke or neurological issues, as well as damage from radiation treatment. He helps people with vocal exercises and compensatory strategies for communication, including different ways of speaking in order to communicate more proficiently.

Paul works at four other hospitals: Weeks, Androscoggin Valley, Littleton and Cottage, as well as six home health agencies. He’s at NVRH 2-3 days per week, but often (almost always) meets with patients seven days a week. “I love what I do, and I love working with people,” Paul told me, and it’s obvious to anyone who meets him. He regularly works seven days a week, and normally sees patients and/or their families within 24 hours of receiving a referral.

Paul attended Long Island University in Brooklyn, receiving his BS in Communications, which involved working in the theater department. He helped children read at the local reading center and his interest in speech pathology was ignited. He received his MA from Central Michigan University; the courses demanded a heavy emphasis on neurology, physiology and anatomy. Paul regularly takes graduate students majoring in speech pathology from both UVM and UNH. He teaches anatomy, neuroanatomy and phonetics at Lyndon State College.

For 21 years, he photographed performances at the Weathervane Theater, a well known and beloved regional summer program, in Whitefield, NH. He and his wife Tina have lived in Bethlehem, NH since 1978, raising two children, Alison, a teacher, and Jon, an engineer.

Susanne Wernecke, one of Paul’s colleagues in the field, has been a speech pathologist for ten years. She is in private practice and works with adults in a variety of settings.

Originally, she worked in a children’s health center in St. Johnsbury for four years in the late 1970s, and then as a dental assistant for thirteen years – a great job while her children were growing up. When her children were reasonably independent, she decided she wanted a change, so she started polling patients about what they liked or disliked about their jobs. One, who definitely liked what she did for a living, was a young woman who had received her master’s degree in speech pathology. After reading about the field, Susanne’s interest was piqued. She spent time with three different area speech pathologists, one of whom was Paul, and at that point decided to work toward applying to UVM’s speech pathology master’s program.

This required both experience in the field and additional undergraduate prerequisite courses, so Susanne took CCV night classes during her last year as a dental assistant and then worked for two years as a speech pathology aide in the Burke and Lyndon Town schools. There were 144 applicants for 15 available spots in the UVM graduate program so Susanne always considered her acceptance as one of her biggest accomplishments. She would leave her home in Barnet for school in Burlington at 5:00 am Monday morning, live with her mother during the week and return home for the weekend.

Susanne loves working with adults, helping them deal with both communication and swallowing issues resulting from events such as stroke, cancer, traumatic brain injury or progressive neurological diseases. She sees inpatients and some outpatients at NVRH and home care clients through Caledonia Home Health as well as patients at The Pines in Lyndonville, Greensboro Nursing Home and Union House Nursing Home in Glover. Asked about the enjoyment she receives from her job, she said “I like that, for the most part, people are willing to participate. They’re compliant and appreciative. It’s nice to work with someone who wants to be there, and wants to succeed.”

Susanne and her husband Don, moved to Barnet in 1979, built a house and raised their two children. Sadly, Don passed away in August 2008. Jesslyn (26) lives and works in South Boston and Greg (29) is in an orthopaedic residency program in Sydney, Australia.

Susanne and Paul – Many thanks to both of you for all that you do on behalf of our community.
In an effort to promote healthier eating, the Courtyard Café has reduced the per-pound price of salad items from the salad bar. “We reviewed our menu and realized that our price structure might lead diners toward less healthy options. That has never been our aim,” said Ginny Flanders, director of NVRH global food enterprises. “As a hospital, we should do all we can to encourage staff and visitors to sample healthier food options.”

More changes may come this summer. The Café may offer introductory pricing on new, healthier entrees to encourage people to try them. The discount may be combined with a survey so that the cooks can determine the popularity of a dish and take suggestions for changes. If you have a great idea for improving the food service, share it with Ginny Flanders or Ann Creaser.

There is still time to sign up for the NVRH CSA!

Fresh organic veggies will be harvested in June. The peas have started to root in the soil, lettuce has been planted and the greenhouse tomatoes are starting to grow and we will be trellising them this week. As can be seen, we had a special challenge last week with 20” of snow. Mark, Marissa and I were not quite sure how planting in the snow would work. Bill Half, Harvest Hill Farm

Please contact Sharon Anderson at 748-7490 for more information.

Financial Health

Thanks to all who have sent in ideas for the Spare Change program, and PLEASE keep them coming. We are looking for viable ways to keep hospital costs down, and your input is invaluable. All suggestions are considered, and some have already been implemented.

April’s $25 gas card winner: Sue Wells, Diagnostic Imaging
From the Library Corner.....

- Betsy Merrill

Last week, National Institutes of Health, National Libraries of Medicine, and a group of education and resource-oriented companies released a working edition of QUERTLE, a free research tool that uses semantic-driven text, not just query terms (search terms). It’s actually intuitive, in that it searches for relationships between key words. Automatic identification of key concepts provides the user with results focused on what is important to you, as well as what you didn’t know about.

QUERTLE is user-friendly, and includes not only all of PubMed, but also white papers, full-text articles, and biomedical news. Incorporating search limits familiar to PubMed users, Quertle allows the user to identify specific authors, specific journals, or sort by dates or relevance. Abstracts are available within this resource.

One thing that QUERTLE has incorporated that I haven’t seen in other search tools is an instance on proper capitalization. When a search term can have multiple meanings, based on capitalization, the user may be surprised by their results. For example, “NO” means nitrous oxide, while “no” is a negative, generally meaning “without something”.

Check it out: www.QUERTLE.info. Their informational webpage promises to save you from “drowning in your literature search results”. This is truly “ready for prime time”. It’s a fun tool for librarians (and anyone else who wants to play with it).

Something else to try out.....

Beginning May 1, members of the NVRH community will have access to MD Consult and First Consult, through a pilot site license of these Elsevier electronic products, through mid-June.

Using IP authentication, NVRH users will be able to access these online resources without the need for an individual user name or password. Once logged on, users may create an individual account, which allows for customization of the service. (Our trial license allows for any number of simultaneous users from within the organization.) To access MD Consult and First Consult from our NVRH location, users should go to http://www.mdconsult.com.

These resources bring together many of the leading medical resources available into one integrated online service to help decision-making in pressing clinical questions. Some of the options that are part of the MD Consult suite include:
- Journals (full-text articles of medical journals). PDF’s available;
- Clinics of North America (comprehensive, clinical reviews, including diagnoses and therapies);
- Patient information (customizable handouts, in everyday language);
- Images (over 50,000 images from printed text, for comparison and discussion purposes);
- Guidelines (access to regularly updated, peer-reviewed practice guidelines);
- Drugs & Prescriptions (includes generic and brand name drugs, investigational medications, nutraceuticals, and nutritional products with complete FDA prescribing information);
- CME (now approaching 200 Cyberounds Grand Rounds activities across 15 specialties, and includes Clinical Cornerstone and free CME from Excerpta Medica).

Also in this suite is First Consult: similar in intent to Up-to-Date, this is an evidence-based clinical resource for health care professionals. It is continuously reviewed and updated, and includes an A-Z list of differential diagnoses of presenting signs/symptoms, sorted by age and relevance.

Procedures (surgical and diagnostic), with accompanying video clips and evidence-based management guidelines are included, along with clinical pearls.

A listing of medical conditions that provides regularly updated information on patient evaluation, diagnosis and treatment, prevention, and tests is also available.

There’s more, I need your feedback.

Will the library be able to provide access to these? That’s what my gram would call a “$64,000 question”.... I am greatly enjoying MD Consult as a tool. However, this decision must be based on your ease of use and interest in the product. MD Consult is with us for a trial period. Our partnership in a consortial purchase of this resource (a group purchase by VT/NH medical libraries) depends largely on how you, the NVRH family, feels about it during our trial period (May 1 - June 25).

Try it out....and let me know if it fits your needs. Thanks.
Community National Bank
Continues Its Support of Northeastern Vermont Regional Hospital:

CNB Regional Vice President Rick Isabelle presents a check to NVRH Chief Financial Officer Bob Hersey, while NVRH CEO Paul Bengtson looks on. Community National Bank has been a generous supporter of the hospital’s pride>progress>people capital campaign. The campaign’s priorities include the Norris Cotton Cancer Center-North, a new wing for Diagnostic Imaging (Radiology), a new Day Surgery Center, and state-of-the-art technology for storing and transmitting radiology studies.

Eager beavers have nudged me to get our Team registered for The Prouty. Our team is open and you can register at any time. Team Name: NCCN. The Prouty is a fund raising walk/bike ride that benefits the Norris Cotton Cancer Centers. The event is held in Hanover on July 10, 2010. You can choose from 5k or 10k walks or 20, 35, 50, 100 or 200 mile bike rides. The walk/rides follow the Connecticut River; there are SAG stops and warm greeting from families and cancer survivors. You can register at www.theprouty.org; there’s lots of information on the website, if you have any questions. The minimum fund raising amount is $150. Thanks a lot, and I hope some of you can join us…it’s a fun day, which is why we keep going back!

Marie Flood, RN in Day Surgery

The Diagnostic Imaging department recently held a luncheon to thank volunteers in the mammography department. From left to right: Dot Desrochers, Janice Dussault, Joan Wollrath, Carol Robinson, Carol Tibbetts, June Pequignot. Many thanks to you all!