

JANUARY 1991

Newsletter makes debut after a 14-year absence

CHI's in-house newsletter was last published in September 1977. It has been quite a job trying to resurrect it after all this time, but we hope it has risen from the ashes as good a product as it was before. From what we have seen from the few old preserved copies we could find, it was a top-class product under the able management of such stalwarts as Todd Swalm and Jim Lee. Todd still writes for the South Dade News Leader and Jim does the weekly newsletter for the Perrine-Cutler Ridge Rotary Club. We'll try to follow in Todd and Jim's distinguished footsteps.

First, our mission statement, which is nothing earth-shattering. Our mission will be to convey news about CHI to all those who are interested in us. This monthly news sheet will be modest in ambitions and will not attempt to create great literature. If there are potential Miltons within CHI's fold, we're afraid they will have to wait their time. This publication will be only a very basic information newsletter for CHI's employees, clients and friends. To start with, it will be distributed only to every CHI employee. Then, as it gathers steam, its mailing list will include major client organizations, chambers of commerce, civic clubs, healthcare providers and other primary healthcare organizations similar to CHI. It will also be mailed to other interested private and public bodies down the road.

We must remember all the time, of course, that CHI News, in order to exist, has at once to be readable, presentable and cost effective.

Since its main focus will be employees, we encourage everyone to submit information for publication. Please bring it to Planning and Development in the Medical Education Office.

R. Kirk Landon discusses future of healthcare

Rev. Tommy Watson was recognized as Community Health Foundation, Inc.'s Man of the Year during its Fourth Annual Awards Dinner in October.

The foundation also awarded a scholarship to Paulette Ennis, an LPN at Martin Luther King Clinica Campesina who is pursuing her RN degree at Miami-Dade Community College.

R. Kirk Landon, CEO and Chairman of the Board of American Bankers, was the evening's guest speaker, discussing the future of health insurance and what can be done to improve the system.

Landon said emphasis must be put toward cutting the rising costs of health care.

Landon suggested changing the Social Security System, to delay the normal retirement age. Although the Social Security System already has plans to delay retirement age beginning around the year 2005, Landon said it must be started earlier in order for those without insurance to benefit from the extra tax dollars.

"If we were to start earlier, say 1994, and move the retirement age to 66 and move it again in 1998 to 67, we could use those additional tax dollars to relieve some of the health care cost burden," he said.

"Remember, there are between 33 and 37 million Americans with no source of health insurance coverage. If we do not do something to at least provide the basic preventative care they need, then there is no hope that cost increases will be affordable."

The Community Health Foundation, Inc. was founded in 1987 for the purpose of improving the health status of the community and supporting the programs of CHI.

AT RIGHT: Paulette Ennis, right, accepts an enlarged check from Community Health Foundation's Sheila Harvey during the ceremony. Paulette, an LPN at MLKCC, is the first recipient of the annual scholarship.

