

The Medical Heritage Center

HOUSE CALL



VOL. 2 NO. 2 WINTER

Mark your Calendar

The Medical Heritage Center's spring lecture is scheduled for the afternoon of April 16, 1999. Our guest speaker will be Robert H. Ferrell. Mr. Ferrell is a graduate of both Bowling Green State University and Yale University and has written widely on the presidency. He will be speaking about the death of President Warren G. Harding. Look for more information to follow or call the Center at 292-4891.

DISPLAYS

Current displays in the Medical Heritage feature Radiology, Dr. William H. Havener, former professor in Ophthalmology and more about our local hospitals. Some of our recent donations are featured as well. We welcome you to view our displays Monday-Friday, 1-5 p.m.

THANKS

The furniture for the meeting room in the Medical Heritage Center has all been received. This was made possible through funds from the Columbus Medical Association Foundation. A moveable wall is to be installed in March.

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 On the www: <http://bones.med.ohio-state.edu/heritage>

FOUNDATIONS FOR TODAY: early medical hospitals in Columbus

By the Medical Heritage Center Staff

The history of Columbus' general medical hospitals stretches back over 180 years, to the time of the first poor houses in Columbus and Franklin County. While these institutions were the first in Columbus to offer medical treatment, it was not until the second half of the 19th century that Columbus began to establish the medical facilities that were the foundations for those in existence today.

In 1848, local businessman Lyne Starling deeded \$35,000 and a building site to construct a new medical college and adjunct "infirmary or hospital." In 1851, when Starling Medical College opened in their new facility, only a few classrooms were completed and the school was already in debt. In 1852, Drs. R. L. Howard, Samuel M. Smith and Francis Carter donated \$10,000 to complete the part of the school designated as a hospital; Howard Infirmary was started. In 1862, Dr. Starling Loving felt the need for a charity

hospital in Columbus and brought the Sisters of the Poor of St. Francis to Columbus. They started St. Francis Hospital in a house on East Rich Street. It was a great success and by 1865, the hospital needed larger accommodations. At the same time, Starling Medical College was in need of administrative support for the hospital part of the school, which until this time had been held privately. Thus, in the Starling Medical College building at State and Sixth streets, the Sisters were given a 99-year lease and their hospital transferred to "the castle." The hospital was deeded to The Ohio State University in 1914 to be used as a teaching facility. St. Francis eventually disbanded in 1955 because of mounting debts.

Hawkes Hospital of Mt. Carmel, now known as Mt. Carmel Medical Center, was founded in 1882 by Dr. W. B. Hawkes. Dr. J.

cont. on p.2

Historian's Notebook By George Paulson, MD

Ralph Fanning: "*The Cultivated Mind, The Skilled Hand*" (etched above the entrance to Hayes Hall)

The presence of the Medical Heritage Center allows us to display not just ancient bedpans, rusty scalpels, and forceps of old, but also art of historical significance, such as portraits of physicians Westel Willoughby and Lincoln Goodale. Also on display, through the generous donation of Dr. Jack Postle, is a watercolor depicting construction of The OSU Medical Center in 1949, with one of the ubiquitous post-WW II Quonset huts in the background. This painting was created by Ralph Fanning, along with many other watercolors found throughout the Health Sciences Center and the University. But who was Fanning?

Ralph Fanning came to OSU in 1920 to teach history of art, became full professor by 1924, and served our University for over 37 years. A diligent teacher, he was assigned 20 to 22 hours of lecture

Cont. on p.4



Ralph Fanning on the Oval. Hayes Hall, which housed the Department of Art, is in the background

Recent Donations

The Medical Heritage Center wishes to thank the following individuals who have contributed to our collection recently. The generous donations of books, archives, instruments and monetary support enrich our collection and the history of the medical community in Central Ohio.

Robert A. Feldman, MD: The ophthalmoscope (ongoing series) • Charles Wooley, MD: books • Ronald Stuckey, Ph.D.: books, personal archives • Clara Doubledee: scrapbook • Gwen Trudeau MD: books, artifacts • Dr. Edwin and Nancy Hamilton: brass mortar and pestle • Dr. Mark L. and Anne Saylor: artifacts, journals • Joseph C. Von Thron, MD: blood cell calculator • Norman Browning, MD: artifacts, history of medicine pictures. Monetary donations: Jerry Medaris Hardacre, MD • Nathan S. Hale, MD • Drs. George and Ruth Paulson • Robert M. Inglis, M.D • Ralph and Diana Wittman • Alfred Stockum, MD • Paul S. Metzger, MD • Thomas E. Boles, MD

If you are interested in making a donation, please contact the curator, Barb Van Brimmer, at (614) 292-4891.

Hospitals" Cont. from p.1

W. Hamilton oversaw the completion of the building upon Dr. Hawkes' death, and obtained the services of the Sisters of the Holy Cross. Opened in 1886, the hospital began as an 18-bed facility.

The next hospital in Columbus was St. Anthony's Hospital, which was also organized under the care of the Sisters of the Poor of St. Francis in 1891. When it opened, St. Anthony's had a bed capacity of 200 to meet the growing need for hospital beds on the east side of Columbus. The original building was razed to make room for an 18-story tower in 1970. The hospital was re-named Park Medical Center in 1992.

The same year that St. Anthony's was established, Protestant Hospital was incorporated. It was originally located in a 15-room mansion in the Short North area, on the site that is now Doctors Hospital. In 1898, the hospital was relocated to North Park Street, east of Goodale Park, and increased to a 90-bed capacity. In 1922, the hospital became known as White Cross Hospital and in 1961, the hospital was moved to its present location on Olentangy River Road. The name was again changed, this time to Riverside Methodist Hospital and more recently to Riverside Methodist Hospitals.

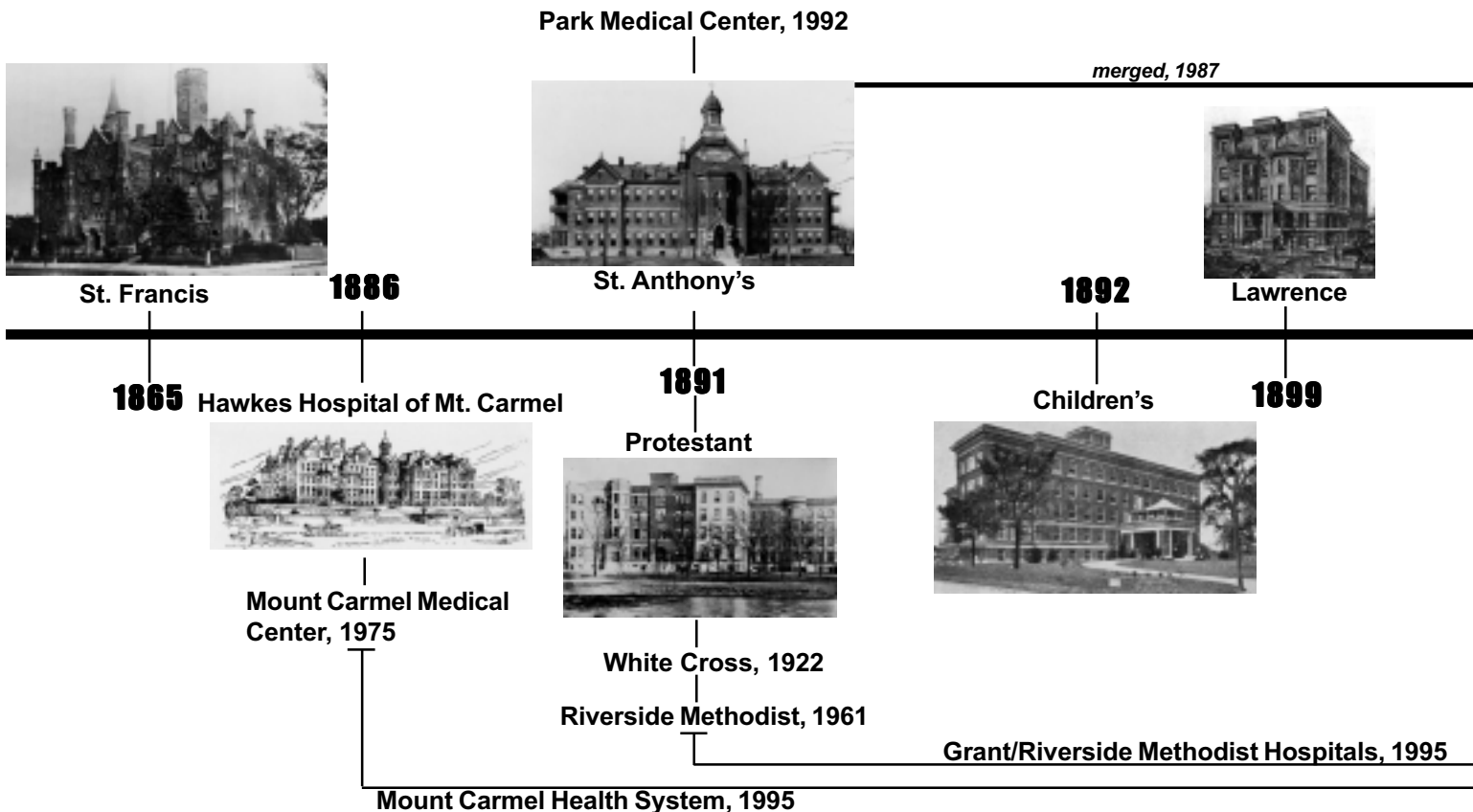
Children's Hospital was incorporated in 1892 as a charity hospital for children no older than 15. It was a nine-bed facility built with community contributions and was heavily

dependent upon volunteer effort. In 1916, Children's Hospital affiliated with the OSU College of Medicine and in 1924, it changed locations from the corner of Miller and Fair Avenues to its current site facing Livingston Park. It was also in this year that Children's began accepting its first paying patients.

Lawrence Hospital was organized in 1899 by a group of businessmen as a surgical, obstetrical, and gynecological hospital. It was named for its chief of staff, Dr. Florus Fremont Lawrence. The hospital, located at 423 E. Town Street, closed in 1919 and the site is now Grant Medical Center's parking garage and LifeFlight heliport.

Grant Hospital, now known as Grant Medical Center was the first hospital to be built in the new century, in 1900. Founded by Dr. James Fairchild Baldwin, it initially housed 50 beds and employed 30 Columbus physicians, surgeons, and specialists. In 1904, an annex was added increasing the capacity to 100 beds, making Grant Hospital the largest private hospital in the world. In 1948, Grant was chartered as a non-profit hospital. Seven years later, a new Grant Hospital was constructed on the site of the demolished St. Francis Hospital.

In 1903, Mercy Hospital was established by Dr. Theodore Davids with a great deal of help from a group of civic-minded Columbus women. After a year, Dr. Davids abandoned his part in the effort, but the women decided



there was a great need for hospital care on the south side of the city. This led them to organize the Mercy Hospital Association. In March of 1904, Mercy Hospital reopened with one patient, one nurse and three doctors. The hospital eventually found a permanent location, on South High Street. This structure was an old house with 12 rooms, one bath, and a large attic. Supplies, food, and linen were provided for the hospital through widespread community support. A foundation was formed in 1907 to collect contributions to build a much larger facility, completed in 1910. In 1987, Mercy merged with St. Anthony's Medical Center, but was then sold to a group of five physicians in 1991 and the name was changed to Columbus Community Hospital.

St. Ann's Hospital, located at the corner of Bryden Road and Kelton Avenue, was originally founded in 1908 by Bishop James Hartley. It started as an asylum to house infants and unwed mothers. Twelve years later, a maternity hospital was opened, and enlarged in 1950 to a total of 40 obstetric beds and 20 gynecologic beds. The name was officially changed from St. Ann's Infant Asylum to St. Ann's Hospital in 1972. Male patients began to be admitted at that time. In 1984, the hospital moved to its present locale in Westerville.

St. Clair Hospital was built in 1917 with a capacity of 30 beds and two operating suites. It was located in a small building on St. Clair

Avenue on the east side of Columbus. The patients at St. Clair were primarily Pennsylvania Railroad employees and their families; the hospital closed in 1940.

The Columbus Radium Hospital was started in 1920 on the site that had previously housed Protestant Hospital. The capacity was set at 25 beds, with four to six beds available for emergencies. In 1938, the name was changed to Doctors Hospital. It grew to be the largest osteopathic teaching health care system in Ohio, as well as one of the largest in America. In 1963, Doctors Hospital was one of the first in the country to add a "satellite" hospital, called Doctors Hospital Lincoln Village. The hospital and its "satellite" were officially named Doctors North and Doctors West in 1969.

Starling-Loving Hospital was founded in 1924, and later became the University Hospital. By 1926, it contained three wings, 296 beds, a large operating amphitheater, laboratories, conference rooms, and an outpatient clinic. The new University Hospital (Doan Hall) opened in 1951 and in 1963 the name was changed to The Ohio State University Hospitals, which encompassed University Hospital, Starling-Loving Hall, Dodd Hall, Upham Hall, Wiseman Hall and Means Hall. Expansion continued with Rhodes Hall, which was added in 1981.

Lincoln Memorial Hospital was founded in 1958 as a 68-bed hospital specializing in surgical care. Located on East Livingston

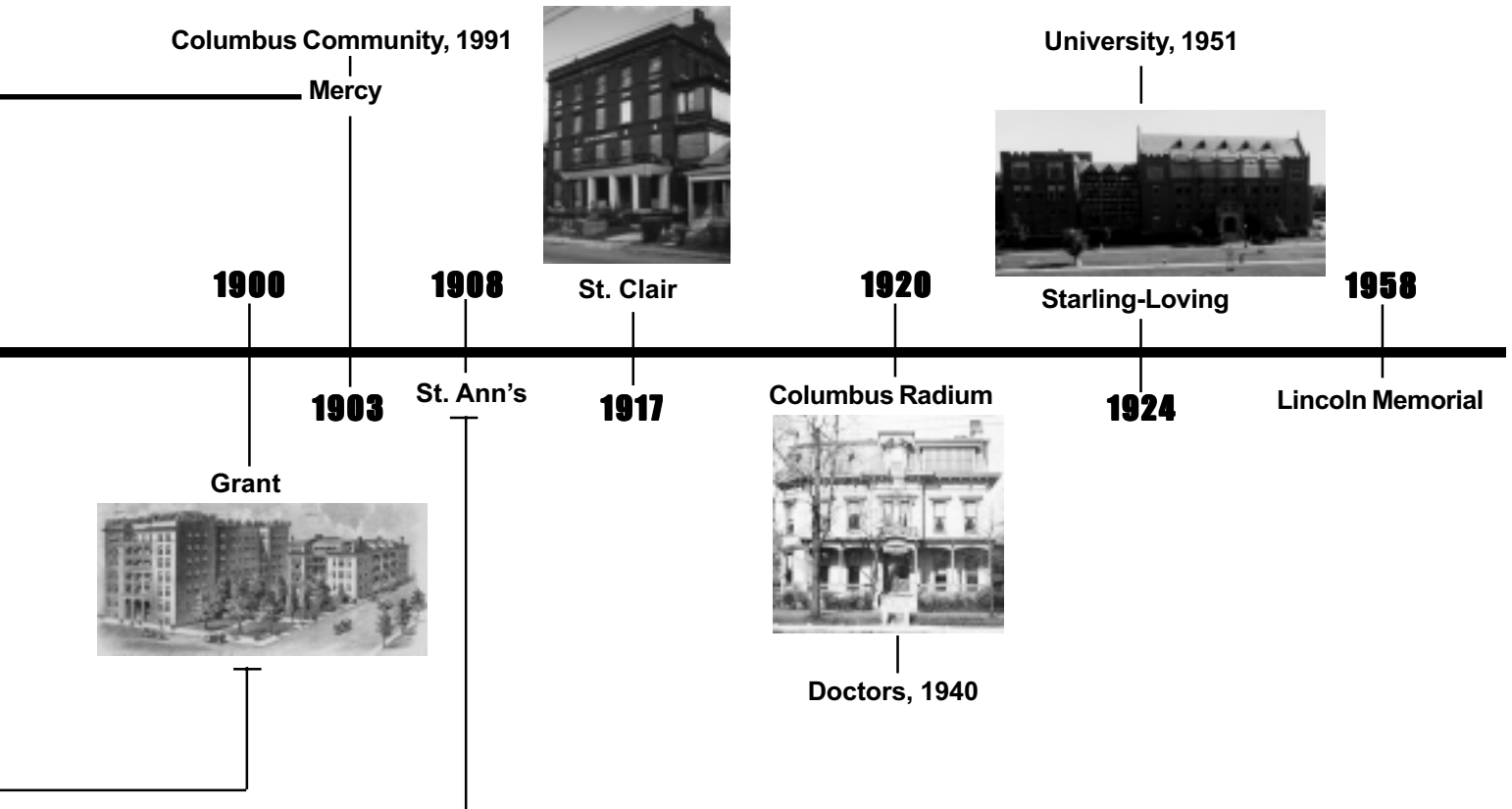
Avenue, it was originally a "for profit" hospital, but quickly converted to non-profit in order to gain recognition by the Blue Cross organization. It was rejected for Medicare coverage in 1971, which significantly contributed to its closing in that year.

The general medical hospitals of Columbus have been greatly affected by the wants and needs of the community. Thanks to groups such as the Sisters of St. Francis and community leaders, health care was available to all. In addition to care for the poor, these early hospitals provided learning opportunities for many medical students, as well as establishing adjunct nursing schools. The future of health care in our community will certainly continue to shape and be shaped by our local hospitals.

Editor's note: I'm sure many of you will notice the absence of other local hospitals, such as Harding and the State Hospital. This article was intended to focus primarily on the general medical hospitals. We are planning a future article on the "specialized" hospitals in the area.

Also, we discovered the mention of other hospitals in our research such as County Infirmary Hospital, Capital City Hospital, McKinley Hospital and the "Military Hospital on Broad Street." If you have any information about these or other hospitals we missed, please contact us.

Special thanks to Jason Kurth for his help in writing this article. Jason is a journalism student who works in the Medical Heritage Center.



each week and served as a gentle, even lifelong mentor for many graduates. Some in his department questioned his artistic skill; they claimed he would paint a picture in the 12 minutes between classes. However, no one questioned his generosity. In 1959 he gave, and helped hang, 200 of his watercolors within the University Hospitals Clinic Building. When the art department set up a campus lending library, there were over 3000 Fanning watercolors in the collection, which he eventually donated to the university. Fanning suggested the sum of \$1 for each painting, to cover the cost of the materials; President Bevis magnanimously insisted the University pay \$3 for each painting. Many of the pictures have now drifted away. During the 1950s a new set of Fanning's paintings appeared in the OSU Faculty Club each month, and some still remain on the walls of its main dining room. He was eclectic in subject matter: flowers, bridges, homes, beaches, historical sites, and construction equipment all appear. Fanning's paintings are an excellent artistic record of University construction in the times after "The Great War." Several corridors in the Fawcett Center display fascinating views of construction of the stadium; horses and men working side by side are shown in front of the unfinished stadium.

Quaker in background and a wounded non-combatant in WW I, Ralph Fanning was popular as a lecturer and insisted he sketched and painted to observe things better and enhance his own memory. In his later years he developed a troubling essential tremor of his right hand. This is sometimes called benign essential tremor, or the "Katharine Hepburn tremor," but it is hardly benign for a painter. Perhaps the tremor was responsible for subtle changes in his later paintings, which showed less detail and more white unfinished backgrounds, though they remain characteristically

luminous and quietly comforting. Unmarried, he returned to his native Long Island to continue to care for his brother's children and died in 1971. Surely he would have been pleased to hear the recollection of his colleague, Dr. Robert Myron, Professor Emeritus of Art at Hofstra University: "I can still hear Ralph Fanning saying, 'The purpose of life is that people do things for other people.'"

LINKS TO THE PAST

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