



Members of the Georgetown Lions Club were at Georgetown District Memorial Hospital Wednesday night to make a \$15,000 donation to the hospital for the purchase of three pain pumps. Pictured with a pump from left are; Lions Club members Al Watt, Vic Bristow, Dennis Borotsik (president), Dan Boyle, Tony DeGabriele, and hospital anaesthetist Dr. Charles McCormick.

Lions make donation

Pain pumps for local hospital

By LISA TALLYN
Staff writer

Thanks to a \$15,000 donation from the Georgetown Lions Club patients at Georgetown District Hospital will soon have a more effective way of dealing with pain than they have in the past.

The money from the club will be used to purchase three patient-controlled analgesia (PCA) infusers, known as pain pumps. Each pump costs between \$5,000 and \$6,000.

Dan Boyle, Lions Club member, says the money was raised over the past year by the club.

"We are always looking for good, worthwhile uses for the money," said Boyle. Last year the club donated \$40,000 to the hospital to purchase a laparoscopic unit to be used by the hospital's surgeons.

The pain pumps are a relatively

new innovation, and will be the first at the Georgetown hospital.

"The new pain pump, intended initially for use in our surgical ward, will provide post-operative patients with a proven and effective alternative to conventional pain management," said patient care hospital assistant executive director, Marlene Quackenbush. "Patients will be able to quickly and easily administer their own pain medication, as pre-established by their physician."

To operate the pump, the patient presses a button and a pre-programmed amount of analgesia (set by the doctor) is injected through an intravenous needle. The pain relief takes effect immediately because it is pumped directly into the bloodstream.

Quackenbush says it is impossible for patients to get too much

medication because the pump is programmed with a maximum medication dose limit. It also records the amount and number of times the drug has been injected.

Dr. Charles McCormick, anaesthetist at the hospital, was instrumental in getting the pumps for the hospital.

Dr. McCormick says the pumps are a more efficient way for patients to get pain relief because the dosage goes directly into the bloodstream, instead of into muscle as is the case with an injection. He adds that due to the frequent small doses the patient never has so much drug in his body to experience side effects.

Hospital staff will be trained in the use of the pumps before they are available to patients, and patients selected to use the pumps will be taught how to operate them.

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SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6TH, 1992

with STANLEY K. MONTEITH, M.D.

Diplomate, American Board of Orthopedic Surgery,
Santa Cruz, California.

Schedule

- 10:30 a.m. • IS THE AIDS EPIDEMIC BEING ADDRESSED ADEQUATELY?
• IS THE PUBLIC BEING TOLD THE TRUTH ABOUT THE EPIDEMIC?
• WHY IS THE HIV EPIDEMIC NOT BEING DEALT WITH AS A MAJOR EPIDEMIC?

12:00 noon Luncheon Served

- 1:30 p.m. • VIDEO - "AIDS" (EVERYTHING YOU WANT TO KNOW BUT HAVEN'T BEEN TOLD)

2:30 p.m. Coffee Break

- 3:00 p.m. • DISCUSSION - QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

No Admission Fee - A Free Will Offering will be taken

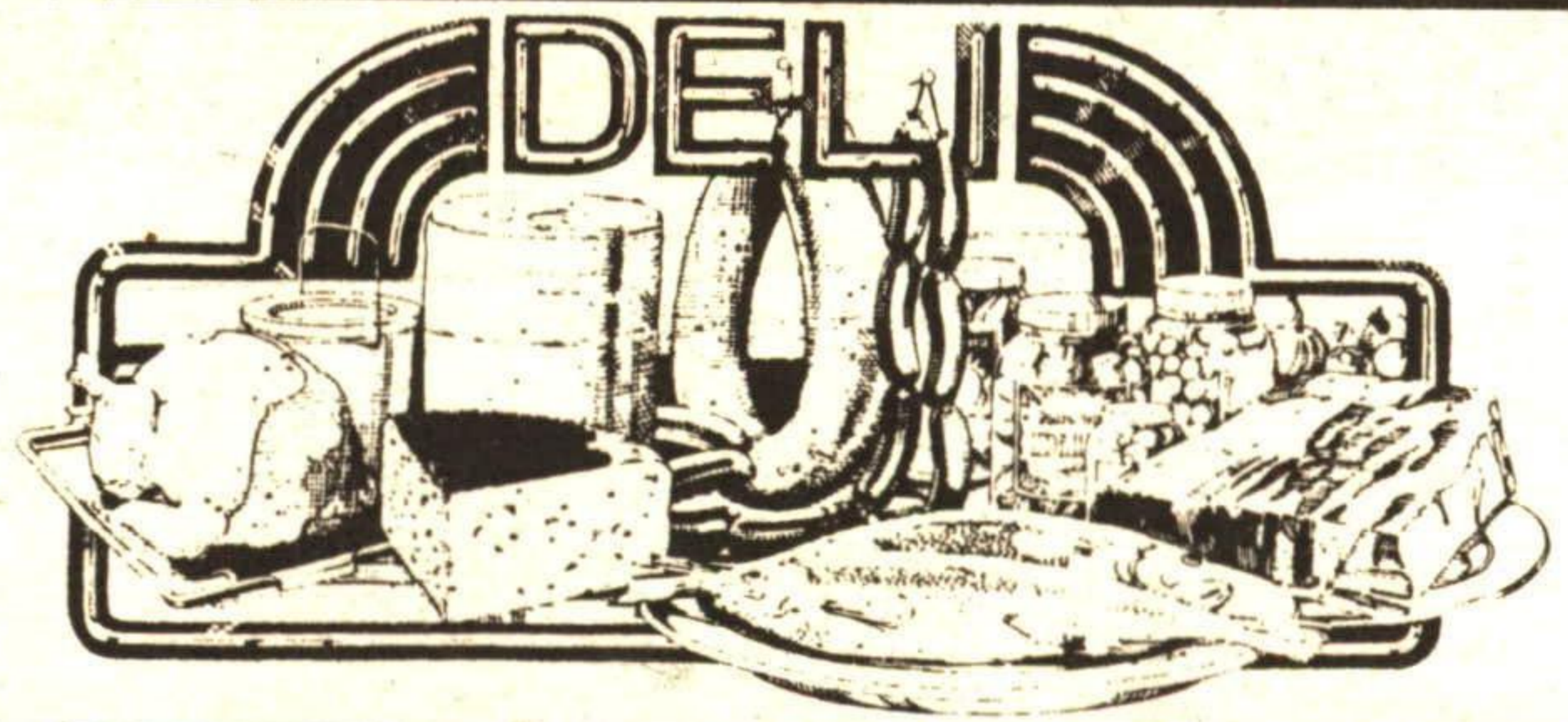
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