



THE CUPOLA

The Bulletin of The Medical Alumni Association of Bassett Medical Center
Cooperstown, New York

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Diwali Comes to Cooperstown



Bassett medical alumni frequently recall their training in Cooperstown with nostalgia and appreciation. When sharing memories of residency days, in addition to expressing high praise for wonderful mentors and powerful learning experiences, alumni often reminisce of social occasions and bonds of friendships with colleagues and community members. Beyond the educational training, holidays and dinners with friends and their families, events at the local institutions and enjoyment of the great outdoors are among the outstanding recollections of years spent here.

More recently, residents and medical staff have joined in celebrating the festival of Diwali. This event reflects the increasing representation of physicians and residents from Indian cultures. The local celebration, now in its eighth year, is funded by a handful of Bassett physicians and organized by their family members and other Indian families who live in Cooperstown.

Diwali, a festival of lights held each autumn in India, celebrates the harvest season and it is observed by Hindus, Jains, Sikhs and some Buddhists. Typically, this holiday, based on Hindu mythology, is commemorated over four or five days. It is known as a time for getting together with family, sharing meals, gift-giving, and for setting off fireworks.

According to Anush Patel, M.D., division chief, Hematology Oncology, "We are very happy to share this special Indian holiday with colleagues and friends in the Bassett family. It reminds all of us to be open to other cultures and communities,

and yet it helps local Indian families to maintain our identity."

This year's festival was held on Saturday, Oct. 26, 2019. Over 100 participants (residents, students, physicians and their family members) were

in attendance. The local event included Indian food (some catered, and some dishes prepared by family members), music performed by a group of medical residents, and even a fireworks display. Whether of Indian heritage or not, it was an evening to remember and another reason why the training programs at Bassett continue to be appreciated for fostering respect and building professional relationships. ■



Bassett physicians Edward Bischof, M.D.; and Erik P. Riesenfeld, M.D. with his family members Emily and George; are pictured with current medical resident Vijay SekarKumar, M.D.; former medical resident Kulothungan Gunasekaran and Anush Patel, M.D.



Preethi Sekar and daughter Ananya enjoy the sparklers and fireworks display after the festive dinner and musical performance.

Message from the President of the Medical Alumni Board of Directors

We're very pleased to share this edition of *The Cupola* and hope you enjoy reading it. Our feature article, on the celebration of the Indian festival of Diwali, taught me things I did not know, and it is symbolic of the international flavor of the house staff. Plus, it reminded me of the wonderful relationships that I developed during my Bassett experience. Please look at this article, as well as the other items, especially the obituary of Dr. Don Pollock, a fine teacher, physician, and person. He was one of the many great faculty from whom house officers like me learned so much. Don will be missed by many in Cooperstown and in the field.



Kenneth Wilkins, M.D., President, Board of Directors

The Basset Alumni Association met as usual in October. We received good information about the state of Bassett, and learned that its three foundational missions of patient care, teaching, and research continue to remain strong. There is a new tradition for Association board members: "cut-throat ping pong" at the home of Dr. John Davis. I'm happy to report that the "young" board members were able to hold their own!

Don't forget to let us hear from you. A great part of each issue of *The Cupola* is learning what folks are doing now. ■

The Cupola is the newsletter of the Medical Alumni Association of Bassett Medical Center. The Association was founded to provide support and recommendations to Bassett's Medical Education Department; to assist in recruiting medical students, house staff and attending staff; and to provide financial support to develop and enhance medical education at Bassett.

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Alumni Board Holds Annual Meeting

By John Dier, M.D.



Bassett Medical Alumni Association Board of Directors: Front row L-R: Timothy Whitaker, M.D.; Michael Foltzer, M.D.; James Murray, D.O.; Stephanie Ocegüera, M.D.; Madiha Alvi, M.B., B.S.; Erin Gillaspie, M.D.; Rachel Zehr M.D. Middle row L-R: Kenneth Wilkins, M.D.; William LeCates, M.D.; John Dier, M.D.; David Newman, M.D.; Jing Luan; Bruce McClennan, M.D.; John Davis, M.D.; Back row L-R: James Dalton, M.D.; Anush Patel, M.D.; Douglas DeLong, M.D.; and Steven Ching M.D.

The 2019 gathering of the Medical Alumni Association board began with the lecture delivered by the Dr. John Davis Visiting Professor. This year's presenter, Steven Kirshblum, M.D., is an internationally recognized expert in spinal cord injury management and rehabilitation. His lecture was thought provoking and served as a reminder of the quality of educational experiences available at Bassett.

Board members subsequently gathered, and the meeting was called to order by President Ken Wilkins, M.D. The board was informed that Donald Pollock, M.D., a founding member of the Alumni Association, passed away Sunday, Sept. 29, 2019. He was a friend, colleague, and teacher of many alumni and will be missed dearly. Memories were shared including his unwavering devotion to the Red Sox, not necessarily an easy task in Upstate New York.

William LeCates, M.D., president of Bassett Medical Center, gave a Bassett update. The institution continues to expand services to provide as comprehensive care as possible to those in its catchment area of nearly 6,000 square miles. A recent positive Joint Commission survey was highlighted, as were the ongoing research efforts of NYCAMH. Well-known for farm safety research, there is now an initiative which targets Maine lobstermen. Education continues to be a priority for the institution. A grant has been received to start a nurse practitioner training program. A limited number of fellowship training programs are being considered and a family practice residency is still planned although delayed due to funding.

James Dalton, M.D., director of Medical Education and now also Internal Medicine Program director, reported that there is a need for a building to house the proposed family

medicine residency program, and funding is being sought to help support this program. Funds from the Medical Education Endowment have been directed toward an ongoing emphasis on resident wellness. Elsie Jacob, M.D., Surgery-PGY2, presented a summary of these wellness efforts. Telemedicine and how it relates to resident teaching was discussed.

Nicholas Hellenthal, M.D., chief of Surgery, also emphasized the expanding role of teleconsults, particularly in dermatology and neurosurgery. E-consults will become more widely accepted in the future and will be reimbursed appropriately.

Theodor Kaufman, M.D., Surgical Program director, reported that some graduates are seeking general surgery opportunities in rural communities. Those choosing to apply for fellowships have been successful. Eric Knight, M.D., Transitional Year Program director, reported that most graduates are continuing in radiology or ophthalmology programs. After 14 years he will be stepping down as program director, with Erik Riesenfeld, M.D. to succeed him starting next June.

Henry Weil, M.D., senior associate dean for the Columbia-Bassett Medical School presented a medical school update. Lunch with the residents was followed by a demonstration in the simulation lab. Although not part of the presentation, there was considerable interest in POCUS, point-of-care ultrasound, which is part of the resident curriculum.

The annual business meeting followed. Board member terms were discussed and updated. Thanks to the efforts of our new Executive Vice President, Anush Patel, M.D., there is now a Bassett Medical Alumni Association Facebook page with plans to expand to other social media platforms including a link from the Bassett web page. The board discussed ways to expand and improve the searchability of the alumni database. Funding a resident "educational experience" was suggested and met with board approval.

Next year's meeting will be Friday, Oct. 2, 2020. There are tentative plans for an informal dinner with the residents on the evening prior.

The day ended fittingly with dinner overlooking Lake Otsego at The Otesaga. It was a crisp, clear fall evening in contrast to the 96 degrees reported by President Wilkins in North Carolina the day he left for Cooperstown. What a beautiful place to live and practice. ■

Dr. John Davis Visiting Professorship Offered Insightful Programs



(L. to R.) Bassett staff welcomed the Dr. John Davis Visiting Professor. Anush Patel, M.D., division chief of Hematology Oncology, presenter Steven Kirshblum, M.D., Brian White, D.O., attending physiatrist, James Dalton, M.D., director of Medical Education and Internal Medicine residency program director, and Edward Bischof, M.D., Internal Medicine residency associate program director.



John S. Davis, M.D., and Steven Kirshblum, M.D., at the lecture given by the Dr. John Davis Visiting Professor.

on the topic, "Walking After SCI?" which was well-received by an audience of physicians, residents, and members of the alumni board. His presentation provided a fascinating review of modalities to facilitate mobility in patients with spinal cord injuries.

The previous day, Kirshblum conducted rounds with medical and surgical residents, and held a case presentation and bedside teaching on a patient who was suffering from a spine disorder. That afternoon he again met with the medical residents and shared his insight on multiple spine-related topics, as well his views on medical education. ■

A reminder: Who are the members of the Bassett Medical Alumni Association?

You are past and current interns, residents and fellows. You are former and current members of the senior doctoral staff. And you are students of the Columbia-Bassett Medical School program or students who spent your final two years of medical school at Bassett.

Perspective of a Surgical Resident

By Suzanne Evans, M.D.

It really seems like a lifetime ago that I moved to Cooperstown, not that time has been unkind, but it's flown by in a way I never anticipated.

Originally hailing from a small town in Ontario, Canada, I was introduced to Cooperstown while rotating in surgical oncology in Bridgeport, Conn., with former Bassett resident and staff physician Randy Zuckerman, M.D.

He suggested I consider the program as I began my applications for residency

as he described a picturesque town in a landscape of rolling hills and hiking trails, steps from the village where baseball is king but local lore and history abound. In addition, it offered a great rural training program that would allow me to become proficient in general surgery and continue onto a fellowship if I had the desire.

I was thrilled to interview here, despite the dreary December weekend, and although cold and somewhat dark (not shocking given that it's upstate N.Y.), it was just as it had been described, but perhaps even better given the people I met and the program I hoped to join.

Fast forward a few months and I was moving into resident housing and starting the orientation process, where I met my fellow interns who would become my friends and family for the remainder of my time at Bassett. Surgery residency, even after undergoing massive change in the past decade, is still no easy feat, but made easier by having the support and camaraderie of the other residents. Pick-up soccer games, village walks, and fireside dinners offer respite from the hours we work, on the wards and in the operating rooms, and build a real sense of community among us.

Over the course of my first year, the floor and ICU patients became more manageable, and over the next years operating became less daunting in a procedural sense (Am I holding this right? What am I even looking at? Why is this so hard when the attending makes it look so easy?) but more focused on preparing and performing the right operation on the right patient. At Bassett, I've discovered that some of the most powerful experiences can come from unexpected and banal situations, and even what initially seems like a simple gallbladder surgery can provide a wealth of knowledge to apply in the future.

Surgery is evolving rapidly, with new guidelines and standards of care being updated constantly, methods of patient care changing and the advancement of techniques and treatments allowing patients to do better and faster. Bassett is a remarkable place to train to become a skillful and compassionate surgeon, all the while in this scenic backdrop.

Though I've not yet completed my residency here, it would be hard for me not to hold a special place in my heart for all the attendings, residents, nurses, and staff of all varieties with whom I've had the pleasure of sharing not only my time at Bassett, but also the produce section in grocery stores, celebrations at the Otesaga, hiking trails, Lake Otsego, and life as a whole in Cooperstown. ■



Suzanne Evans, M.D.



See our latest news and updates at Bassett Medical Alumni Association

THE BASSETT FAMILY ALBUM — ALUMNI NEWS

Please keep your notes and photos coming!

1960s

Bruce McClennan, M.D. (Rotating intern 1967-68) was honored to present the 27th Annual G. Leland Mclson Visiting Professorship and Lecture at the Mallinckrodt Institute of Radiology in St. Louis. He spoke about machine learning and artificial intelligence and the growing tidal wave that it represents for the specialty of radiology. He is convinced that machine learning is here to stay, and the field should “use it or lose it.” While some have predicted that radiologists and pathologists are dinosaurs and will be replaced, it is his premise and prediction that “artificial intelligence will not define us radiologists (or replace us) but rather refine us.”

1970s

James Kornberg, M.D. (Psychiatry resident 1976-77) Recently he and his wife, Sally, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. He wrote, “We are blessed to live, when not in Boulder, on our beautiful Snow Drift Ranch, near Telluride, Colo.” In addition to cattle ranching, he is a member of the Western Writers of America in 2012 and has been the “Frontier Doc” for *True West Magazine* since 2007. He states that writing about old west medicine has been among his most fulfilling endeavors in life. Watch bookstores for his first novel, *Bite the Hand that Feeds You*, due out in



James Kornberg, M.D. on his mountain-top property Snow Drift Ranch.

October. “My wife and I have very fond memories of Bassett, especially at this time of year. We wish the house staff, faculty, students and all of the Bassett family the warmest wishes for a safe, happy and healthy 2020.”

Ross Zumwalt, M.D.

(Rotating intern 1971-72) just published *Zumwalt’s Forensic Pathology*, a 500-page textbook, featuring case studies and methods for any trainee interested in forensic pathology.

1980s

Jacqueline A Bello, M.D.

(Transitional Year resident 1980-81) is now president-elect of the American Medical Association Foundation in addition to her role as a professor of Clinical Radiology and Neurosurgery and director of Neuroradiology at Albert Einstein College of Medicine, Montefiore Medical Center.

Robert Sheep, M.D.

(Surgery resident 1980-83) reports he is enjoying retirement (active with golf, running and bicycling) from a general surgery practice that spanned 35 years. He and his wife, Diane, live in Chambersburg, Pa. He recalled, “I cherished my experience at Bassett, especially the mentorship of Drs. Bordley, Blumenstock, MacMillan, Carter and others”.

Mark Cohen, M.D.

(Internal Medicine resident 1982-85) In September, he was named the chief medical officer at the U.S. Department of State. Cohen, who joined the Foreign Service in 2004, completed assignments in Moscow, Nairobi, Iraq, Washington, D.C., and London before returning to Washington in 2017 to serve as the deputy medical director for the State Department.

Anne Nafziger, M.D., Ph.D.

(Transitional Year/Internal Medicine resident 1984-88 and Research Institute 1990-2004) has increased



Anne Nafziger, M.D., Ph.D.

the amount of time she is devoting to serving as ring-side physician for USA Boxing working at regional and national tournaments. She reports, “I am having a blast! (P.S. I am not competing in the tournaments).”

2000s

Anush Patel, M.D.

(Internal Medicine resident 2003-06; chief resident 2006-07; attending physician 2011-present) writes, “I was so happy to see Angela Zheng, rotating through our medicine program from Albany Medical College. She is the daughter of my co-resident **Jing Luan, M.D.** (Internal Medicine resident 2005-08). Angela was only 5 or 6 years old when I first met her and now she is following in her mother’s footsteps. Congratulations Jing and Angela!”



James Dalton, M.D., Angela Zheng, and Anush Patel, M.D.

Jorge Aguilar, M.D.

(Transitional Year resident 2005-06) is pleased to announce that he and his long-time girlfriend were married in early October at the Purdue University

Memorial Union in West Lafayette, Ind., where the bride hails from and went to school. The couple currently lives in the San Francisco Bay Area where he practices neuroanesthesiology.

Brent White, M.D.

(Attending surgeon 2008-13) has been working as an assistant professor of surgery at Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center since leaving Bassett Center. He was named chief of the Community Surgery Section in 2015 and was recently appointed as the state representative to the executive council of the New England Surgical Society for a three-year term. White was the recipient of a Surgical Department Teaching Award from the Geisel School of Medicine at Dartmouth 2016. He was awarded the Arthur Naitove Distinguished Teaching Award from the Surgical House staff 2019, and honored as a “Top Doctor” in surgery from 2017-2019 by *New Hampshire Magazine*. He adds, “Though we have enjoyed the many opportunities the New Hampshire/Vermont Upper Valley has provided us educationally, professionally we continue to miss our many friends and colleagues

from our nearly five years working and living in the Cooperstown area.”

2010s

Patompong “Tom” Ungprasert, M.D.

(Internal Medicine resident 2011-14) is returning to the United States after

two and a half years in his home country. He will start working as an academic rheumatologist at the Cleveland Clinic in Cleveland, Ohio, in December. ■

2019 Walter A. Franck Physician Excellence Award Announced



Bernadette Ryan, M.D.

Attending surgeon Margaret Bernadette Ryan, M.D., is the 2019 recipient of Bassett Healthcare Network's most prestigious recognition for a physician, the Walter A. Franck Physician Excellence Award.

The award was established to honor rheumatologist Walter A. Franck, M.D., who retired from Bassett in 2014 after more than four decades of distinguished service. This award recognizes a physician who emulates the lifelong career traits he embodied— service to patients, students, colleagues and the community. Physicians are nominated by their peers and the award recipient is determined by a vote of Bassett physicians. Ryan received the award in July.

Ryan completed fellowships in surgical oncology and thoracic surgery at the University of Texas, M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, Texas. Prior she served an internship and residency at Bassett

Hospital with a year at Presbyterian Hospital in New York, N.Y. She began working at Bassett as an attending surgeon in 1992.

In addition to responsibilities as a general surgeon, she has expertise in thoracic surgery, breast surgery and reconstructive breast surgery, surgical oncology and endocrine surgery. Ryan is a faculty member for surgical residents and offers a surgical oncology mentorship as an elective for medical students training at Bassett. She is a past winner of the Golden Apple Award given to the most outstanding teacher by surgical residents.

As stated by Anush Patel, M.D., member of the award committee, "This award celebrates all that is good in our Medical staff, and recognizes an outstanding physician who exemplifies excellence in the areas of clinical care, scholarship, and citizenship—characteristics embodied in our retired colleague, the long-time chief of Medicine, Walter A. Franck, M.D." Previous winners of this award are Shep Friedman, M.D.; Kai Mebust, M.D.; Chris Kjolhede, M.D.; and Raul Monzon, M.D. ■

Chris Kjolhede, M.D., Earns Lifetime Achievement Award



Chris Kjolhede, M.D.

Bassett pediatrician and co-director of the Bassett School-Based Health (SBH) Program, Chris Kjolhede, M.D., received the 2019 Lifetime Achievement Award from the national School-Based Health Alliance in June. The award recognizes "luminaries in the

school-based health care field who have demonstrated a strong commitment to the mission of school-based health care...who embody the spirit of innovation, dedication, and collaboration, and who go above and beyond to manifest the vision of quality school-based health care for all young people."

"Chris is most deserving of this honor," says chief of Pediatrics Philip Heavner, M.D. "His career has been spent in patient advocacy and the exploration of new paradigms of care that translate incredibly well to our population. "

In the mid-1990s, his penchant for patient advocacy led Kjolhede to pursue

growing a new model of pediatric care that would provide services in schools throughout the counties served by Bassett, thereby assuring easy access to quality health care for students from pre-kindergarten through 12th grade. He was joined in this effort by long-time SBH colleague and practice manager Jane Hamilton, R.N., and many others. The model they pursued included not just primary medical care, but mental health care as well.

Today, the Bassett School-Based Health Program is the largest rural program in New York State and a model for the rest of the country. It has grown to include 20 health centers in 16 school districts, and there are several schools on a waiting list to open a SBH center. These health services have expanded to include dental care and telemedicine, such as concussion consults and psychiatric counseling for students with complex needs. The total number of overall visits to SBH in 2018 was 37,054. ■

Joseph Luz, M.D., Honored



Joseph Luz, M.D.

Joseph Luz, M.D., a Bassett Healthcare Network senior attending physician in Family Medicine, was recently honored with the Schoharie County Chamber of Commerce's Lifetime Achievement Award.

Luz has been practicing family medicine at the Bassett primary care office in Schoharie for over 25 years. He has also served as Schoharie County coroner, a member and president of the Schoharie County Board of Health, and medical director for the Schoharie County Office of Emergency Services, ten volunteer rescue squads, and the Schoharie County ARC.

He also serves as a primary care clerkship preceptor for Columbia University and Columbia-Bassett medical students. He is an attending physician and former medical staff president at Cobleskill Regional Hospital.

A retired colonel, Luz served for 25 years in the U.S. Army Reserves with three deployments to the Middle East. ■

Physician Employment Opportunities in the Bassett Healthcare Network

Anesthesiology
Cardiology
Digestive Diseases
Family Medicine
General Surgeon—
Surgical Critical Care
Hospitalist
Internal Medicine
Neurology
OB GYN Generalist
Otolaryngology
Pediatrics
Radiology
Urology

For more information visit:
[http://recruitment.bassett.org/
physician-jobs/](http://recruitment.bassett.org/physician-jobs/)
or call the Medical Staff Affairs
office at 607-547-6982.

Bassett Looks Back to 1982



Medicine teaching rounds 1982: Attending Walter Franck, M.D. bending over bedside, with residents (L to R) Ken Wilkins M.D., Doug DeLong, M.D., Steve Buie, M.D. and James Walker, M.D.

Bassett Welcomes Alumni



Julia Manzerova, M.D., Ph.D.

Julia Manzerova, M.D., Ph.D., joined Bassett Medical Center as an attending physician in Radiation Oncology. She earned her medical degree at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine, Bronx, N.Y. She completed a Transitional Year residency in 2012-13 at the Mary Imogene Bassett Hospital followed by a residency at New York-Presbyterian Hospital, New York, N.Y., in Radiation Oncology. ■

Kaufman from page 8

"I loved the location and was happy to match here and complete my residency at Bassett in 1999," said Kaufman. "I then left to work in private practice for about 16 years in Pennsylvania; however, I started looking for a change of location because solo-private practice was suffocating as far as a private life goes."

Serendipitously, Steve Heneghan, M.D., called around the same time and offered Kaufman the opportunity to return to Cooperstown and work with the surgical group and surgical residents. "So, that's how I ended up coming back to Bassett; Drs. Heneghan and Raul Monzon gave me that opportunity."

When Kaufman was onboarding, but not at Bassett yet, the director of the surgical residency program announced he was leaving, so everything kind of opened up and fell into place.

"I think that not only for me but for many of the surgeons who work with the residents, teaching and training them, we have the ability to make an impact on the care of many more patients than we would ever meet or personally treat," said Kaufman.

"I've always loved this institution when I was training here and always felt that this was really my medical home, more so than my medical school. We've had a lot of great role models here, including Drs. Ryan, Dietz, Bordley, Gold, Heneghan and MacMillan among others. Even years later, I would come across a difficult case and would recall my

Grand Rounds Focuses On Work of Former Bassett Physician

Bassett's early contributions to the history of hematopoietic cell transplantation were highlighted on Wednesday, July 17, 2019, in an elegant presentation by Frederick R. Appelbaum, M.D., executive vice president and deputy director, Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center, Seattle, Wash. Appelbaum shared his research in a Grand Rounds entitled "Progress in the Clinical Art of Hematopoietic Cell Transplantation" in which he discussed the work of E. Donnall Thomas, M.D., who arrived at Bassett in 1955 and was appointed physician-in-chief a year later.

The material presented in the talk is part of a biography of E. Donnall Thomas, M.D., and his role in the history of transplantation research that Appelbaum is developing for future publication.

Thomas became interested in the possibilities of bone marrow transplantation as a medical student first reading about experiments on mice in the early 1950s. Once here, he combined his ideas and research interests with those of Bassett's immunologist and research physician Joseph Ferrebee, M.D. In 1965, Thomas moved to Seattle to become a professor of medicine at University of Washington and to lead the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center where he continued research and experimentation. In 1990, Thomas received the Nobel Prize in Medicine for his pioneering work in bone marrow transplantation which had begun at Bassett.

After his talk, Appelbaum met with Bassett historian John S. Davis, M.D., and offered his impressions of Bassett's research focus today. He applauded the institution's E. Donnall Thomas Research award which encourages residents to undertake research projects and suggested it may be an incentive unique to Bassett's Medical Education program. He recognized the Research Institute's shift to public health and population studied as insightful and important for its relevance and ties to the geographic setting. ■

training at Bassett and how we would have dealt with it.

"In looking back, I've lived in the city and the country, and they both have their pluses, but I prefer the quiet life," said Kaufman. Then with a bit of humor, he notes he has lived in three iconic places, Bethel, N.Y., famous for the 1969 music festival-Woodstock; Punxsutawney, Pa., where the ground hog is legendary, and now Cooperstown, widely known for baseball.

"I believe strongly in Bassett's mission both as a health care provider and as a medical educator in this rural part of the state, and I feel like I've had a very fortunate life and also think it's important to give something back."

Kaufman continues to give back to Bassett to return the support and excellent training he received during his residency. If Bassett's mission is important to you, you are encouraged to call the Friends of Bassett at (607) 547-3928. Thank you! ■

SAVE THE DATE

Bassett Medical Center's Department of Surgery is going to have a social gathering at the 2020 ACS October Convention in Chicago. Details to follow soon. Please update your email and contact information by sending a quick message to Theodor.kaufman@bassett.org and Kelly.stone@bassett.org. Thank you.

IN MEMORIAM: BASSETT REMEMBERS

Margery Norris Armstrong, R.N.

Margery ("Marge") Norris Armstrong, R.N., who served for many years as head nurse of the ICU at the Mary Imogene Bassett Hospital in Cooperstown, passed away on Aug. 12, 2019 at age 85.

Marge Norris was born on Nov. 25, 1933, in Carbondale, Pa., but spent most of her youth growing up in Oneonta. She began volunteering at A.O. Fox Hospital at age 14 and started working as an intern at Bassett Hospital in 1952, while a nursing student at Hartwick College. After completing her bachelor's degree, Armstrong joined the Bassett staff in 1955 and became head nurse of Center Two, working with the team of E. Donnell Thomas, M.D., in their pioneering use of whole-body irradiation and bone marrow transplantation to treat acute leukemia.

Nurse Armstrong left Bassett in 1963 to work nights at the Thanksgiving Nursing Home so that she could be home during the day to take care of her newborn twins. She returned to Bassett in 1968 and became head nurse of the Intensive Care Unit shortly after it opened in 1970 in the new hospital building. Later transferred to the A.S.U. and officially retired in 1994, she continued to work almost full time at the hospital on a per diem basis until 2001.

Armstrong was known as a fierce advocate for her patients and for the nurses who worked in her unit. She is remembered for an amazingly detailed memory of her patients and their care. House staff were fortunate to have her as a beloved mentor. The late James Lipsky, M.D. (Medicine resident 1972-74) left an honorarium in her memory as one of three nurses who had "taught him the most at Bassett."

She married Robert K. Armstrong on Dec. 8, 1962; he died in 1987. She is survived by numerous relatives.

Frank Martin Hall Jr., M.D.

Frank Martin Hall Jr., M.D., passed away on July 17, 2019, at age 75. He grew up in Fredonia, N.Y., and obtained his undergraduate degree from Washington and Jefferson College, where he played on the varsity football team. He then attended the State University of New York at Buffalo School of Medicine followed by medicine residency at Rochester (N.Y.) General Hospital, and then served as a lieutenant in the United States Navy during the Vietnam War. Hall and his wife Joan settled their family in Walton, N.Y., where he joined the medical practice of Marvin (Mike) Huyck, M.D. The practice became the Walton Medical Group, which eventually joined the Bassett Healthcare Network where he was attending physician from 1986-95. Board certified in Internal Medicine; he was assistant clinical professor of Medicine at Columbia University. After retirement, he served as a consulting physician at SUNY Delhi. Frank's love of sports, particularly football, was a driving passion for him, and he could be seen at almost every home Walton football game pacing the length of the field. He was predeceased Joan, his wife of 52 years, and is survived by many relatives scattered around the country.

Martien A. Mulder, M.D.

Martien A. Mulder, M.D. of Williamstown, Mass., and Clayton, N.Y., passed away on Sunday June 2, 2019 at age 83. He was born May 10, 1936 in Utrecht, The Netherlands, to Pieter

Andres Mulder and Cornelia Koene Mulder. At the time of his death, he was at his cottage in the Thousand Islands, enjoying the sun and his beloved St. Lawrence River.

Marty Mulder was a graduate of Syracuse University 1958, and University of Rochester School of Medicine 1962. He served as a Naval Officer from 1961 to 1966 before starting his residency in general surgery at Bassett Hospital (1966-71, Chief resident 1970-71), and on the faculty as assistant surgeon (1971-73). Fellow resident Roger MacMillan, M.D. recalls well Marty's infectious laughter and hard work, and also stressed that he brought the concept of intravenous hyperalimentation to Bassett from his resident rotation at Presbyterian Hospital.

The Mulders moved to Williamstown in 1973, starting his practice at Williamstown Medical Associates and then a private practice at North Adams Regional Hospital. He concluded his career at Southwestern Vermont Medical Center in 1996. Ever the lover of fly-fishing, woodworking, messing about in boats, and singing in local choirs, his laughter brought smiles to all.

He was predeceased by his identical twin brother Hindrik and his first wife Cynthia Smith Mulder. MacMillan points out that "the Mulder twins were so identical that even his wife would mistake Hindrik for her husband!" He is survived by his wife Susan (Yates), children Pieter with wife Lucia, Cynthia "Cici", and Brian, as well as grandchildren.

Donald O. Pollock, M.D.



Donald O. Pollock, M.D.

Donald O. Pollock, M.D. died on Sept. 29, 2019 at age 89 after a life of service marked by nearly 50 years at Bassett. A graduate of Hamilton College and Harvard Medical School, he interned at Bassett Hospital (1955-56) followed by his medical residency including chief resident (1958-59). After active duty in the U.S. Army Medical Corps, primarily assigned to Ethiopia, he returned to Bassett in 1967 with a career that ended in 2011 as a member of the Board of Trustees, transitioning to Trustee Emeritus in 2012. As attending physician (1967-1999) he developed expertise in dermatology (introducing the specialty to Bassett) and attained the rank of associate clinical professor of Medicine at Columbia University College of Physicians & Surgeons. He organized and directed Bassett's General Services Department and later served as chief of the Division of General Medicine. He was also responsible for establishing Bassett's second regional clinic, the Cherry Valley Community Health Center, all the while acting as medical director for The Meadows, then Otsego County's Skilled Nursing Facility. He was also a founding member of the Bassett Medical Alumni Association in 1988, remaining an active member of the Board until his death.

A dedicated member of Cooperstown's First Presbyterian Church and a diehard Red Sox fan, he was preceded in death by his wife, Elinor and their son, the Rev. Stewart Pollock. He leaves sons Peter and Jim Pollock, daughters Sally Zaengle and Donabeth Urick and their extended families both locally and spread around the country. ■



THE CUPOLA
Bassett Medical Center
Office of Medical Education
One Atwell Road
Cooperstown, NY 13326

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Kaufman Believes It's Important to Give Something Back

Experiences when we're young can often shape our opinions and decisions later on in life. A case in point is Theodor (Ted) Kaufman, M.D., F.A.C.S., general surgeon, and general surgical residency program director at Bassett Medical Center.

"I grew up in Bethel, N.Y., a small rural town in Sullivan County about 90 miles from Cooperstown. Back then I recall that a lot of my neighbors would go to Cooperstown for their medical care," said Kaufman. "Back in the 70s and 80s there weren't a lot of choices in Sullivan County for advanced care; you either went to New York City or you went to Cooperstown. And country people often didn't like to go to New York City. So I had always heard about Cooperstown and Bassett."

Both of Kaufman's parents were immigrants from the WW II era; his father was Jewish, from Romania, who had survived Europe during WW II, then joined the U.S. Army as a dental technician as a road into the U.S. His mother, Ursula, one of eight children of German parents, had moved to the U.S. via Canada after the war. She had trained as a nurse in her native Germany.

"She always told us kids that education is very important and all three kids graduated from college," said Kaufman. "She also gained additional education as an adult, eventually



James Bordley, IV, M.D., and Ted Kaufman, M.D., hiking in Arizona.

becoming a nurse practitioner as a single parent with three children; not an easy task. She worked for a Livingston Manor family physician Dr. Paul D'Amico. But in 1985, when I was in undergraduate school heading towards a degree in life sciences with the plan to teach, my mother was diagnosed with severe Crohn's, a gastrointestinal disease, and, naturally, Dr. D'Amico, who regularly referred to Bassett, wanted her to go to Cooperstown to be seen by Dr. John Davis. She eventually had surgery by Dr. Bordley, and that's when I first met

him. So because of my mom's illness, I changed my goals and I wanted to go to medical school. Thankfully, my mom did well and recovered, and then I was all about trying to get into medical school.

"Going to school in Brooklyn in the late 80s and early 90s, I thought I would become a trauma surgeon. It was a fast paced and quick-decision sort of specialty and attractive to a young person interested in surgery.

Then as a medical student, Kaufman took an opportunity to come to Cooperstown to work with the infectious disease group (Drs. Reese, Kozak and Foltzer) for a month. "So now I was at Bassett as part of the medical group, as opposed to being there because of a family member.

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