

THE CUPOLA

The Bulletin of The Medical Alumni Association of The Mary Imogene Bassett Hospital
Bassett Healthcare, Cooperstown, New York

Summer 2005
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BASSETT'S REGIONAL NETWORK GROWS



Since 1988, Bassett has had an affiliation with O'Connor Hospital in Delhi, which recently completed a \$6.5 million expansion and modernization project.

Beginning in the 1970s under the leadership of Dr. Charles Allen Ashley and at an ever-faster pace under Dr. William Streck's leadership, Bassett has grown from a small, rural hospital to a major regional health care network with 21 health centers and affiliations with three small hospitals and one skilled nursing facility.

In July, Bassett announced a new partnership with a fourth community hospital in the region. In response to a request from the board of The Hospital in Sidney, Bassett has agreed to work with the board and the state Department of Health in developing a new model for the delivery of health care services at the Sidney facility. "We anticipate starting with urgent care, and then thoughtfully building the programs from that point," Dr. Streck said. "The Department of

Health has expressed a willingness to support the idea of a new model of emergency services in an extended diagnostic and treatment center."

Both O'Connor Hospital in Delhi and Bassett Hospital of Schoharie County in Cobleskill are run by their own boards of trustees, and a similar relationship is being established with Little Falls Hospital in Little Falls, which came on board last August.

Bassett has been affiliated with O'Connor Hospital since 1988. Designated as a Critical Access Hospital, O'Connor is licensed for 23 acute care medical/surgical beds, including extended care "swing" beds for patients awaiting home-based skilled nursing care or nursing home

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NATIONAL RURAL SURGERY SYMPOSIUM HELD AT BASSETT

In keeping with its mission to study, advocate and improve the practice environment for rural surgery, Bassett's James Mithoefer Center for Rural Surgery held its first Rural Surgery Symposium from May 22-24 at the Otesaga Hotel. More than 100 people attended, including 45 surgeons from 27 states, medical residents and students, exhibitors and Bassett staff. Twelve faculty members from across the country presented their views on issues pertaining to education, research and the current state of rural surgery in the United States.

The symposium offered attendees the opportunity to learn the current status of rural general surgery, as well as the latest policy issues affecting rural health care. The symposium was moderated by Randall Zuckerman, M.D., Co-Director of the Mithoefer Center. Featured speakers included Marcia Brand, Ph.D., Director of the Office of Rural Health Policy, and Hiram Polk, Jr. M.D., FACS, Professor and Chairman of the University of Louisville Department of Surgery.

Steven Heneghan, M.D., Co-Director of the Center and Bassett's new Surgeon-in-Chief, presented results from a recent national survey by the Mithoefer Center, which confirmed that rural surgeons' practices differ significantly from those of their urban counterparts. Discussion of the

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Kenneth W. Wilkins, M.D.

Two themes dominate this edition of The Cupola. Our grief over the loss of a colleague and friend is profound. Bill Guiney's untimely death serves to remind us of the lasting relationships formed at and by Bassett. Most alumni have fond memories of our times in Cooperstown, and, of course, the people are the major reason for that.

But even as we enjoy our moments of nostalgia (do you pay attention to the annual Hall of Fame inductions?), Bassett changes. Witness the regional network that seems to grow every other month or so. On-campus growth continues

pace. The financial pressures being applied to all of medicine have not skipped Cooperstown. Bassett's response to these forces has altered the landscape. I'm happy that, in the face of profound changes in health care, The Mary Imogene Bassett Hospital remains a special place. With its special people, Bassett is not fundamentally different from our days there. Let us hear from you.

*Kenneth W. Wilkins, M.D.
President, Board of Directors
Bassett Medical Alumni Association*

THE CUPOLA is the newsletter of the Medical Alumni Association of The Mary Imogene Bassett Hospital. 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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BASSETT TO RENOVATE BIRTHING CENTER, PEDIATRICS UNIT

When it opened in 1989, Bassett's Birthing Center combined the latest medical care with comforting amenities of that time. Today, despite a high patient satisfaction rating, the facility is out of date and often crowded. The number of births has doubled over the past 16 years from 300 in 1989, to 594 in 2000 and 616 in 2004.

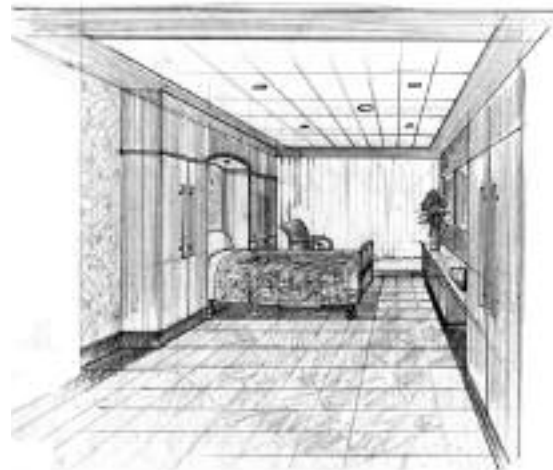
Bassett's ability to deliver care in a 5,000-square-mile rural service area in which four hospitals have closed their birthing units in recent years brings increasingly more patients to the Birthing Center and the Pediatrics Unit – the only dedicated inpatient pediatrics unit in the area.

Hence Bassett is updating and expanding both its Birthing Center and Pediatrics Unit. Two dedicated units, the "Bassett Birth Place" and the "Kids' Space," will be created, configured for the specialty practices and moved to the second floor of the hospital.

The Birth Place will provide seven larger, private birthing rooms, each with a hydrotherapy tub for comfort and convenience during labor and the postpartum stay. The nursery will include both an observation nursery and a special care nursery. Support areas to be shared with the Pediatrics Unit will include a family waiting area and a children's play area.

The six-bed Kids' Space will include two isolation patient rooms and four private patient rooms, three of which will be convertible to semi-private rooms. All units will contain swing beds for parents who wish to room-in with their child. A playroom, a treatment room and a hydrotherapy tub will be dedicated to the Pediatrics Unit.

With construction soon under way and a target com-



A Cannon Design depiction of what a new Birthing Center LDRP room will look like.

pletion date set for 2006, the Friends of Bassett has begun a region-wide drive to raise \$500,000 toward the \$2.5-million project. The initiative's fund-raising committee, which includes Dr. Margaret Young, Chief, Department of Pediatrics, and Dr. John Dewey, Obstetrician and Gynecologist-in-Chief, has started to secure commitments from individuals, families, foundations and corporations throughout central New York.

Proceeds from special events, such as the 2005 Bassett New Year's Eve Gala, have been designated toward the initiative. Fittingly, the theme of the 2005 Gala is "Great Expectations." You alumni out there are obviously invited to support the effort! ■

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placement. In June, the hospital completed a \$6.5 million building expansion and modernization project that includes a state-of-the-art Emergency Department, an ambulatory procedure suite, an expanded Outpatient Specialty Clinic area, a centralized registration area, an expanded Physical Therapy Department, a new nurse's station for the inpatient floor and a renovated Outpatient Pharmacy. "Even as we are completing this project we are preparing for more improvements and services," said O'Connor C.E.O. Dan Ayres. "ENT and ophthalmology services are new, the Dental Clinic is scheduled to open in August and a mobile MRI is anticipated in the near future."

Bassett has had a similar affiliation with Bassett Hospital of Schoharie County in Cobleskill since 1994. The only hospital in rural Schoharie County, BHSC provides acute and progressive inpatient care and outpatient emergency and specialty services ranging from audiology to podiatry.

Like O'Connor, BHSC has experienced recent growth. Last year, the hospital acquired a GE LightSpeed Plus CT scanner. This year, the hospital added mobile MRI services and a full-time cardiologist. Future plans include the addi-

tion of nuclear stress testing and a cardiac rehabilitation program.

Bassett's partnership with Little Falls Hospital is gradually taking shape, with Bassett staffing the Emergency Department and a growing number of specialty clinics, including otolaryngology, women's health and urology. The hospital board is also working with Bassett to attain designation as a Critical Access Hospital.

While Bassett's regionalization has benefited the organization as a whole by increasing its patient base and helping it become financially strong (after losing more than \$700,000 in 2002, the hospital reported a positive margin of nearly \$9 million in 2004) it has also allowed the affiliated hospitals to grow.

As all of this expansion augments Bassett's referral stream, it is, of course, impacting the hospital and clinic base in Cooperstown. The next structural phase is likely to be governed by continued internal enhancements to match what has already been done with the hospital's magnificent fifth floor, including the planned revamping of inpatient pediatrics and obstetrics and overall remodeling of the second, third and fourth floors of the hospital. And, of course, many of those regional sites will be getting renovations as well. ■

IN MEMORIAM: BASSETT REMEMBERS

William B. Guiney Jr., M.D.

The Bassett community was saddened by the sudden passing of Dr. William Guiney on July 7. Five days earlier, at 57 years old, he had collapsed in unexplained cardiac arrest. One of the gifts he left his family was his carefully worded living will.

Bill Guiney graduated from Cornell University with a B.A. in 1970. He then attended the University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry, where he met his future wife, Katharine Wait Lloyd. They married March 15, 1975, and in June 1975, Bill received his M.D., a few seconds ahead of his wife, by virtue of alphabetical order.

After residencies at the University of Rochester, the couple joined the Bassett senior staff in 1979, where for many years Dr. Lloyd served as radiation oncologist. Dr. Guiney served as attend-



William B. Guiney, M.D.

ing pathologist and assistant lab director, positions he held until his death. For many years he was the director of the blood bank and served one term as the vice president of the medical staff. During the past several years, he also served as the laboratory director for Bassett Healthcare Herkimer and Bassett Hospital of Schoharie County; laboratory assistant director for Bassett Healthcare

Hamilton; tissue bank director at The Mary Imogene Bassett Hospital and BHSC; and chairman of the Medical Staff By-Laws Committee. He was an Assistant Professor of Clinical Pathology at Columbia University.

Dr. Guiney loved the challenge of his responsibilities and the opportunity to perform his work with precision and timeliness. Bill enjoyed teaching at all levels, authored or co-authored many professional articles, and was regarded by his colleagues as an outstanding diagnostician and a gifted teacher.

Bill and Kathy lived with their two sons, Evan and Allan, at their home in rural Cooperstown. He loved spending time with his family. A dedicated father, he enjoyed many outdoor sports, including hiking, cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, swimming and hunting with friends and family, most

recently with his son, Allan. Bill was an ardent conservationist. He also loved music, and among many musical activities he derived much pleasure from singing with the Voices of Cooperstown.

"Bill Guiney was a thoughtful, articulate and engaging colleague as well as being an accomplished physician," said William F. Streck, M.D. "His death serves to remind us of how fortunate we are at Bassett to have colleagues of his caliber and commitment. We will miss him in many ways."

Bill is survived by his wife, Katharine Lloyd, M.D.; their two sons, Evan and Allan Lloyd Guiney, all of Cooperstown; his mother, Gertrude Guiney of Mount Lebanon, Pa., and numerous other relatives.

Editor's note: Please send obituary information on former Bassett physicians to bassett.cupola@bassett.org.

LET ME LISTEN TO YOUR HEART-THE PLAY!



Actors Kristin Strader and Charlie Reiman perform a scene from the Hartwick College stage adaptation of "Let Me Listen to Your Heart."

A new chapter opened in the life of Bassett's acclaimed 2002 book of medical student writings, "Let Me Listen to Your Heart," with performances in May of a play, written and directed by students at Hartwick College in Oneonta, N.Y.

In 2004, the book was offered to Hartwick's Theater Department. Senior theater major Aimee Doyle adapted several writings for a staged performance, and classmate Christian Hegg cast and directed the play featuring four local

actors. It debuted in early May with four performances at the college. The following weekend, the show moved to Cooperstown's Templeton Hall, where two well-attended performances were sponsored by the Leatherstocking Theatre Company. Stimulating "talk-back" sessions with the audience followed each show.

Alumni should take pride in the continued success of this project as publication of the book, edited by Drs. Alan Kozak and David Svahn, was supported by the Medical Education Endowment Fund.

It is planned to offer the book for similar theatrical use to medical school and other college theater departments. Interested individuals may contact David Svahn at dsvahn@stny.rr.com or through the Department of Medical Education. ■

An essay, "Reading, Writing and Medicine" written and recorded by Dr. David Svahn, is being heard nationwide this summer on "The Health Show," a nationally syndicated public radio program produced in Albany, N.Y., by Northeast Public Radio. It may be heard by accessing show # 899 at healthshow.org/archive.

POSITIONS AVAILABLE

Bassett continues to expand as a regional medical network (see feature story on Page 1 of this issue). The following positions are available. Please steer interested candidates to Denise Harter in Medical Staff Affairs at (607)547-6982 or denise.harter@bassett.org.

- Anesthesiology
- Cardiology
- Critical Care
- Dermatology
- Emergency
- Family Practice
- Gastroenterology
- General Surgery
- Hospitalist
- Otolaryngology
- Orthopedics
- Pediatrics
- Plastic Surgery
- Primary Care
- Radiology

1950s

Russell M. Lane, M.D., (*Rotating Intern 1955-56, Clinical Fellow in Surgery 1956-57*) provides this bit of Bassett history: He recalls that he was the marrow donor for one of Dr. E. Donnall Thomas' patients, a man with multiple myeloma. He donated five to seven times, for "the princely sum" of \$5 apiece, enough for Christmas presents for his wife, Blake. He still treasures the "wonderful personal reply" he received from Dr. Thomas, after reminding him of those donations when Dr. Thomas received his Nobel Prize for his work at Bassett. In the meantime, Blake was earning \$25 elsewhere for "donating the services" of their rat terrier. (Ah, the problems for house officers trying to make ends meet in those days... It's also worth noting that he and Blake are still going strong together,

nearly half a century later, and will be visiting Cooperstown later this summer.)

1990s

Michael Rainisch, M.D., (*First-year resident in Medicine 1997-98*) reports that "Kelly and I were married on October 3, 2004. In July, we moved to Weston, FL, where I will continue practicing radiology." (Following a residency in radiology and a fellowship in interventional radiology at SUNY Upstate Medical University).

From the editor: Bashfulness or other "excuses" have no place in keeping our alumni readers from submitting comments for the Bassett Family Album! Please send us your notes, personal and/or professional, by regular mail (Editor, The Cupola, Office of Medical Education, Bassett Healthcare, One Atwell Road, Cooperstown, N.Y., 13326) or to cupola.bassett@bassett.org. ■

Members of the Bassett Medical Alumni Association Board of Directors will be profiled periodically in The Cupola. Featured in this issue is Internal Medicine Chief Resident Katrina Harris, D.O., who has been a member for two years.

Harris earned a bachelor's degree from Smith College in 1994 and her Doctor of Osteopathy from the University of New England College of Osteopathic Medicine in 2002. Her research experience includes work on the human genome project at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Harris spent 5.5 months at Bassett as a third- and fourth-year medical student, returning as a resident in 2002. She will serve as a chief resident in Internal Medicine this academic year.



Katrina Harris, D.O.

Harris grew up in Silver Spring, Md. She lived in Somerville, Mass., for three years and spent two years in Saco, Maine, while attending UNECOM. She says she was a "nomad" during her last two years of medical school, spending time in New York (Cooperstown, Utica, Johnson City), as well as Holton, Maine; Rockville, Md.; Kirksville, Mo.;

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HOUSE STAFF LEAVES; NEW APPOINTMENTS MADE

Twenty-seven Bassett House Staff members who departed in June have a variety of assignments. Here's a rundown of their plans for 2005-06.

Keith Baldwin, D.O., General Surgery Residency, Berkshire Medical Center, Pittsfield, Mass.; Viktor Ballada, M.D., Hospitalist, Mercy Hospital, Portland, Maine; Julian Bick, M.D., Anesthesiology Residency, SUNY Upstate Medical Center, Syracuse, N.Y.; Marina Bravin, M.D., Dermatology, Bassett Healthcare; Ethan Colliver, D.O., Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation Residency, University of Utah, Salt Lake City; Chin Leng Ee, M.D., Hospitalist, Eastern Maine Medical Center, Bangor, Maine; Myra Feldman, M.D., Radiology Residency, Temple University, Pittsburgh, Pa.; Mayank Gupta, M.D., undetermined as of press time; Omar Gutierrez, M.D., undetermined as of press time; Mohamed Hameed, M.D., Hospitalist, Eastern Maine Medical Center, Bangor, Maine; Bogdan Jaliu, M.D., Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation Residency, University of Texas Southwestern – Dallas; Sheru Kansal, M.D., Internal Medicine Residency, West Penn, Pittsburgh, Pa.; Aman Mehan, M.D., Nuclear Medicine Fellowship, Radiology Residency, Saint Lukes-Roosevelt Hospital, Manhattan, N.Y.; Morristown Memorial Hospital, Morristown, N.J.; Jimmy Pak, M.D., Vascular Surgery Fellowship, Stanford University Medical Center, Stanford, Calif.; Randy Parkhurst, M.D., Radiology Residency, University Hospital-Syracuse, Syracuse, N.Y.; Jose Perez, M.D., Ophthalmology Residency, Bronx-Lebanon Hospital Center, New York, N.Y.; Amy Perlmutter, M.D., undetermined as of press time; Mahoua Ray, M.D., Anesthesiology Residency, John Stroger Hospital, Chicago, Ill.; Frederick Reynolds,

M.D., General Surgery Practice, Saratoga Hospital, Saratoga Springs, N.Y.; Michael Rosenbloom, M.D., Neurology Residency, Brigham and Women's Hospital, Boston, Mass.; Farah Sagheer, M.D., Pulmonary Critical Care Fellowship, Creighton University Medical Center, Omaha, Neb.; Eric Schenk, D.O., Internal Medicine, Penobscot Bay Medical Center, Rockport, Maine; Rashmi Sudarsanan, M.D., further study in Ayurveda, Holistic Healing System of India; Mary Trusilo, M.D., Anesthesiology Residency, SUNY Upstate Medical Center, Syracuse, N.Y.; Carlos Villanueva Del Rio, M.D., Urology Residency, University of Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, Neb.; Heather Wasileski, D.O., Internal Medicine, Little Rock, Ark.; and Brian White, D.O., Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation Residency, Kessler Rehabilitation Institute, West Orange, N.J.

Bassett residents for the 2005-06 academic year include:

General Surgery

Cecilia M. Loh, M.D., Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine; Sylvan R. Maginley Jr., M.D., Dartmouth Medical School; Luis M. Ocegueda, M.D., Loma Linda University School of Medicine; and Nathaniel M. Rieb, M.D., University of Washington School of Medicine.

Internal Medicine

Nayana Abrol, M.D., Gandhi Medical College, India; John Agbi, M.D., University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry; Lisa V. Asgaonkar, M.D., Albany Medical College; Sarah M. Buhay, M.D., University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry; Miriam J. Cerutti, D.O., University of New England College of Osteopathic Medicine; Elizabeth R. Dennis, D.O.,

Chicago College of Osteopathic Medicine of Midwestern University; Michael T. Doldan, D.O., Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine; Aaron M. Gavett, D.O., University of New England College of Osteopathic Medicine; Swamy N. Gollol-Raju, M.D., Ambedkar Medical College, India; Jesse F. Greenblatt, M.D., University of Colorado School of Medicine; Era K. Hanspal, M.D., State University of New York Upstate Medical University College of Medicine; Jing Luan, M.D., Capital University of Medical Sciences, China; Robert K. Mathew, D.O., New York College of Osteopathic Medicine; Beth M. Olearczyk, M.D., Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons; Adolfo Ramirez Zamora, M.D., Universidad Autonoma De Guadalajara, Mexico; Frederick W. Terry, D.O., West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine; and Albert S. Yu, D.O., Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine.

Transitional Year

Jorge Aguilar, M.D., University of Texas Medical School at Houston; Michael Archer, M.D., Ohio State University College of Medicine; Alfred D. Belen III, M.D., Albany Medical College; Elizabeth A. Freck-Frasier, M.D., Boston University School of Medicine; Krista N. Haight, M.D., University of Vermont College of Medicine; Christopher N. Krone, M.D., Saint George's University, Grenada; Suzanne M. Manzi, M.D., Saint George's University, Grenada; Ines M. Vigil, M.D., University of New Mexico School of Medicine; and Kara S. Willenburg, M.D., University of Illinois College of Medicine.

Pharmacy

Maya Tatum, Pharm.D.



Symposium participant leaders from left to right: Bassett's Patrick Dietz, M.D.; Charles Rinker, M.D.; Thomas Russell, M.D.; Karen Deveney, M.D.; Bassett's Randall Zuckerman, M.D.; Dana Lynge, M.D.; Bassett's Michael Gold, M.D.; and Bassett's Steven Heneghan, M.D.

findings identified several concerns, including the difficulty rural surgeons have obtaining appropriate training and maintaining current knowledge and skills. Stephen Olson, M.D., the first Mithoefer Center Fellow, now establishing a rural surgical practice in the small town of Burns, Ore., presented "Urban to Rural. One Surgeon's Story." Olson, the son of retired Bassett surgeon John E. Olson, M.D., is now a member of the Advisory Board for the Mithoefer Center.

Educational issues in rural surgery were covered in detail and included a presentation by Patrick Dietz, M.D., Program Director for Bassett's surgical residency, on the educational programs offered through the Rural Surgery Center. A main conclusion of this session was recognition of the need to provide trainees with an appropriate breadth of surgical experiences involving procedures commonly performed by rural surgeons such as endoscopy, OB/GYN, urology and plastic surgery. Rural surgery research



Shown here is a figure from the 1938 Bassett Rural Medicine Symposium.

issues were also discussed at length. A detailed summary of the symposium may be obtained by contacting Lori Sawicki in the Department of Surgery: lori.sawicki@bassett.org.

The Mithoefer Center for Rural Surgery was established in 2003 in order to respond to the issues facing rural general surgeons throughout the United States. Although 24 percent of the population lives in rural areas, only 10 percent of general surgeons, in an aging cohort, practice there. (The story of the Mithoefer Center's founding may be found in *The Cupola*, Volume VIII, No. 1, Spring 2004 at www.bassett.org/edu/cupola.cfm)

From a historical perspective, the symposium was held 67 years after a conference that helped put Bassett on the national map: "Rural Medicine, Proceedings of the Conference held at Cooperstown, New York, October 7 and 8, 1938", published by Charles C. Thomas and available for review in the MacKenzie Memorial Library. ■

THREE FORMER RESIDENTS JOIN SENIOR STAFF

Dr. Marina Bravin has accepted a position as attending physician in the Division of Dermatology. After obtaining her M.D. from the University at Buffalo, where she had met her future husband, Eric Bravin, M.D., she came to Bassett for her Medicine Residency (2001-05, including Chief Resident 2004-05), along with Eric, who had signed on as attending physician in the Division of Oncology. (For the story of the Bravins as Marina first arrived and Eric returned to Bassett, see the Summer 2001 issue of *The Cupola*, available online at <http://www.bassett.org/edu/cupola.cfm>.) She joins the Dermatology Division with Steven D. Resnick, M.D. and Daniel W. Cuzzo, D.O.



Marina Bravin, M.D.

Norman G. Freund, M.D., is now providing adult primary care at the Herkimer Health Center as attending physician in General Internal Medicine and will also care for patients at Little Falls Hospital. Dr. Freund completed his undergraduate studies at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point and received his medical degree, summa cum laude, from the University of Debrecen in Hungary. He did his residency in Internal Medicine at Bassett (2001-04) and was a recipient of the E. Donnall Thomas Outstanding Research Presentation Award for his research on the effect of the drug baclofen on patients experiencing alcohol withdrawal. "We are extremely pleased that Dr. Freund has chosen to remain with Bassett following completion of his residency," said Curtis Mills, M.D., Medical Director at Bassett Healthcare Herkimer.



Norman G. Freund, M.D.

The Department of Medicine is also pleased to welcome **David Griger, D.O.**, to Bassett as attending physician in the Division of Rheumatology. Dr. Griger received a B.A. from the University of Rochester and his D.O. from the Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine. He did his Medicine Residency at Bassett (2000-03), receiving the Golden Stethoscope Award in 2003 for excellence in teaching. He then completed a Rheumatology Fellowship at the University of Vermont, where he was also Assistant Clinical Professor in the Department of Medicine. He joins the Rheumatology Section with Walter A. Franck, M.D., Donald A. Raddatz, M.D., and Charles S. Schaeffer, M.D.



David Griger, D.O.

Bassett is fortunate that Drs. Bravin, Freund and Griger have joined 48 colleagues, out of the current senior staff of 261, who did some or all of their residents training at Bassett. It's one more testimonial to the continuing excellence of our residency programs! ■

LET'S HEAR FROM YOU

We hear from Bassett alumni that *The Cupola* is one of the ways they have of keeping up with colleagues. To do that well, we need to hear from you. Contact John Davis with Family Album items at bassett.cupola@bassett.org, or by writing to Office of Medical Education, Bassett Healthcare, Attn: John Davis, One Atwell Road, Cooperstown 13326.

BASSETT LOOKS BACK

From time to time, we'll present a picture or two to capture an event or people in Bassett's past. Enjoy reminiscing!



Bassett ambulance, circa 1930. Ah, those Cooperstown winters...



Bassett ambulance drivers Charlie Schroeder and Bill Preston, circa 1960: those good old days when the intern rode the ambulance — and learned how to do the chair carry to bring those heavy patients downstairs. (Bassett got out of the ambulance business in 1969.)

THREE SENIOR RESIDENTS RECEIVE AWARDS

Bassett residents and students recently honored two of their own with the Golden Stethoscope awards. The Surgery students chose Kenneth S. Bark, M.D., as the senior resident they felt was their best teacher. The Internal Medicine residents selected Jesse P. Cone, M.D., for the honor.

This year's Golden Apple awards, given by the residents to the faculty members they felt were their best teachers, went to David C. Borgstrom, M.D., and Eric K. Mooney, M.D., (Surgery) and to Bruce A. Kramer, M.D. (Medicine).

In addition, Mohamed Shahul Hameed, M.D., a chief medical resident, received the E. Donnell Thomas Outstanding Research Presentation Award for 2005. His research project was among the 20 projects presented this spring as part of the E. Donnell Thomas Research Day.

The E. Donnell Thomas Award is presented annually to a resident who has conducted exceptional research while at Bassett for medical training. The award is named in honor of E. Donnell Thomas, who served as Bassett's Physician-in-Chief from 1955 to 1963 and was awarded the 1990 Nobel Prize in Medicine for his pioneering work in bone marrow transplantation, which he began at Bassett. In 1956, Dr. Thomas performed the world's first human bone marrow transplant at Bassett Hospital.

Dr. Hameed's project evaluated a new scoring system that will enable doctors to detect changes in a person's mental status. The study was done under the direction of attending physician Dr. Michael Miller. Dr. Hameed says the results of his study were promising and he is considering a similar study with a larger patient population. ■

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Michigan (Bay City, Grand Rapids, Coldwater) and Tutwiler, Miss.

She now lives in Cooperstown in resident housing. She has a strong personal interest in rural health, particularly as it affects underserved populations. Over the past two years, she has also taken two continuing education courses in osteopathic manipulation, which she hopes to use more in her future practice.

Harris said she spends her precious free time weight training at the gym or reading the NEJM at the local coffee shop. "Along with coffee," she says, "I am addicted to ice cream and usually eat it at least once a day." When she has the time, she enjoys hiking, gardening, cooking, house projects and anything that has to do with music. ■

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Cooperstown, NY 13326

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