



## Weathering the Storm

Ella Delgado enjoys some play time while her father and others tend to patients and facilities at Cleveland Clinic Florida in Weston during Hurricane Irma in September. Families of those employees who were working extended hours at the hospital due to the storm were invited to join them. Ella is the daughter of Ozzie Delgado, Chief Operating Officer at Weston. See story page 2.

FOR CCLCM  
GRADUATION COVERAGE,  
SEE PAGES 9–11

## Four Physicians Honored At Alumni Awards Night

Doctors Gene Barnett, Kathleen Franco, Lee Adler and James Lewis were recognized for their remarkable achievements in medicine and significant contributions to Cleveland Clinic at the Cleveland Clinic Alumni Association's Annual Awards Night in September.

"Each individual has established his or her own special place in such diverse medical fields as neuro-oncology, psychiatry, osteopathy and nephrology," said **Conrad H. Simpfendorfer, MD, FACS, (S'04, MIS'05, S/HEP'06)**, Alumni Association President and event host. "But what they all share is an unquenchable thirst for knowledge and a capacity for constant growth."

The Distinguished Alumnus Award was presented to **Gene H. Barnett, MD, MBA (GS'81, NS'86)**, a neuro-oncologist widely known for his innovations and groundbreaking approaches to brain surgery. He holds the Rose Ella Burkhardt Chair in Neurosurgery.

Dr. Barnett, Director of the Brain Tumor and Neuro-Oncology Center, joined Cleveland Clinic in 1987. He's a leader in the field of computer-assisted surgery and holds several patents related to technology in neurosurgery.



**Gene Barnett (center), MD**, receives the Alumni Association's Distinguished Alumnus Award at ceremonies recently in Cleveland. Presenting the honor are **Conrad H. Simpfendorfer, MD**, Association President, and **Susan J. Rehm**, Association Immediate Past President.

This award goes to a recipient who has brought pride and recognition to Cleveland Clinic through achievements in medicine, academics, business or community service.

Dr. Barnett said he was "humbled" to receive his alumni award and credited the teamwork within Cleveland Clinic for his successes.

*Continued on page 2*

## Awards Night

Continued from page 1

This year's Special Achievement Award went to **Kathleen Franco, MD (CCF'92)**, psychiatrist and Associate Dean of Admissions and Student Affairs at Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine.

The Special Achievement Award is presented to individuals who have been dedicated to the growth and advancement of Cleveland Clinic through exceptional commitment and service over many years. Dr. Franco was honored for her wide and varied achievements and leadership positions at Cleveland Clinic throughout her lengthy career here.

Dr. Franco is a member of both Cleveland Clinic's Board of Governors and its Board of Trustees.

An Alumni Service Award went to **Lee M. Adler, DO (IM'75)**, and **James W. Lewis, MD (IM'70, H/N'71, RES'74)**, who have dedicated themselves to the growth and advancement of Cleveland Clinic and its Alumni Association. Dr. Adler served on the Alumni Board of Directors for many years, as did Dr. Lewis, who also once served as President of the organization.

Dr. Adler has had a long and distinguished career in both academic and community medicine. He now is in what he calls "active retirement," busy with volunteerism and consultancy. But he says that a fundamental goal still is to see Cleveland Clinic continue as a world-class resource for treatment, research and education, and toward that end, he has made significant financial contributions to the institution.

"If I can help to pay back an organization to which I owe so much, I want to do that," Dr. Adler told *Alumni Connection*. "And, in these times, where an institution's sources of income don't always cover expenses, I want my philanthropic contributions –



Lee M. Adler, DO, receives the Alumni Service Award at a ceremony in September for his dedication to the growth and advancement of Cleveland Clinic and its Alumni Association.



Kathleen Franco, MD, received the Special Achievement Award for her many years of service to Cleveland Clinic in a variety of leadership roles.



James W. Lewis, MD, a past President of the Alumni Association, was awarded the Alumni Association's Service Award for his contributions to Cleveland Clinic and the association over many years.

however modest – to help assure Cleveland Clinic's future."

Dr. Lewis was praised for being the best combination of a personable practitioner and competent clinician who was way ahead of his time both in putting patients first and in recognizing that "listening is learning" when it comes to good patient communication.

He was the President of the Alumni Association from 2002 to 2004 and served afterward as the Nephrology/Hypertension Alumni Specialty Director for the Association. ■

## WESTON CAREGIVERS RIDE OUT THE STORM WITH THEIR FAMILIES

When an emergency strikes at Cleveland Clinic Florida in Weston, the Alpha Team goes to work.

That was the case in early September, when Hurricane Irma blew through Florida with exceedingly strong winds and rain that damaged homes, downed trees, flooded yards and roadways and spawned more than a few twisters.

Some 363 nonexempt and 58 exempt Weston employees – members of Alpha Team – came to the hospital to care for patients and anyone else who was injured or needed care. They all knew they were in for a long, stormy stretch.

Some employees ate and slept at the hospital as they worked 72 hours straight, from the evening of Friday, Sept. 8, through noon on Monday, Sept. 10. Human Resources Senior Director Jackie Puntel, for instance,

slept on an air mattress in her office.

What was different about this event was that caregivers were allowed to bring their families to work with them. And many did just that.

A lot of pre-planning went in to organizing activities for children, including game playing, coloring, writing touching cards to patients, and much more. A staff member's Great Dane was there, standing cooperatively next to a sign that read "Pony Rides."

"I think it was a comforting feeling for our people to have their family members on hand as they worked so hard over so many long hours," Ms. Puntel says. "It created a happy atmosphere during a bad storm, and we all got through it OK." ■

# Alumni Association Awards Recognize Two for Outstanding Performance

In the spring, **Dr. Robert Naples** (PGY-2, **General Surgery**) received the Cleveland Clinic Alumni Association's Graduate Level 1 Achievement Award at an event marking the 30<sup>th</sup> year of the awards. They recognize talented future Cleveland Clinic-trained physicians and scientists.



**Dr. Robert Naples (left) and Dr. Vishal Vashistha** received awards for medical excellence and leadership this past spring.

Dr. Naples, born and raised in Connecticut, said he was inspired by his grandfather, an internist, and that he knew early on he would like to pursue a career as a physician. After graduating from Ohio Wesleyan University with a degree in biochemistry, he went on to complete a master's in biomedical science at Tufts University in Boston. On completing the program, he was offered a research position in the Pathobiology Department at Cleveland Clinic's Lerner Research Institute, studying asthma and pulmonary hypertension.

When he had been in the position three years, he was offered the opportunity to begin medical training at Ohio University Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine, where he tutored classmates, participated in the surgery club and spent a summer interning at the University of Vermont learning

about cardiothoracic surgery. During the clinical years of medical school, he trained at Cleveland Clinic South Pointe and developed an interest in endocrine surgery.

Dr. Naples was nominated by six of his colleagues, including Tracy Hull, MD, staff surgeon in the Digestive Disease & Surgery Institute's Department of Colon and Rectal Surgery. She said that Dr. Naples demonstrated an unusual level of excellence in patient care, team leadership and surgical skill.

**Dr. Vishal Vashistha (IM'17)**, an internal medicine resident at Cleveland Clinic, is the 2017 recipient of the Dr. William and Roxanna Michener Award for the Development of Leadership, Medical Humanities and Art.

The Michener Award honors individuals whose peers and teachers believe they embody true leadership qualities. Among them are a commitment to learning, superior communication abilities and a mastery of medical skills. Recipients also are recognized for displaying courage, integrity and compassion, which represent the highest ideals of clinical medicine.

Dr. Vashistha earned his medical degree at Ohio State University. He recently completed an eight-week caregiver quality of life project in Delhi, India, where he conducted a study at the All India Institute of Medical Sciences to help define the impact of advanced lung cancer on patients' families living in rural, impoverished areas. He is embarking on a fellowship in hematology and oncology at Duke University Medical Center and plans to continue researching ways to improve the mental health-related outcomes for cancer patients and their families. ■

## DR. TOMISLAV MIHALJEVIC BECOMES CLEVELAND CLINIC CEO AND PRESIDENT ON JAN. 1

**Tomislav Mihaljevic, MD** (CCF'04), has been selected as the next CEO and President of Cleveland Clinic, following Toby Cosgrove, MD. He will assume his duties on New Year's Day 2018.



**Tomislav Mihaljevic, MD**

Dr. Mihaljevic joined Cleveland Clinic in 2004 as a cardiothoracic surgeon specializing in minimally invasive cardiac surgery. Since 2015, he has been CEO of Cleveland Clinic Abu Dhabi.

"Dr. Mihaljevic brings a depth of experience, first as an innovative, world-class surgeon, and more recently, as a hospital executive focused on healthcare quality and safety, patient experience and business strategy," says Robert E. Rich Jr., Chair of Cleveland Clinic's Board of Directors. "By nearly every measure – quality, accessibility, finances, innovation, reputation – Cleveland Clinic has made unprecedented strides since Dr. Cosgrove became CEO and President in 2004. Dr. Mihaljevic has the background, skills and vision to move Cleveland Clinic forward to even greater heights."

Cleveland Clinic's Board of Governors and Board of Directors unanimously selected Dr. Mihaljevic based on the unanimous recommendation of a nomination committee chaired by Mr. Rich, which conducted an extensive review of potential successors. Dr. Cosgrove and Dr. Mihaljevic will work on a transition process together through the end of the year. When Dr. Mihaljevic assumes the full duties of CEO and President, Dr. Cosgrove will take on an advisory role, to be determined by the Board of Directors and Dr. Mihaljevic. ■

# DOCTORS KEYHAN AND JAFAR MOBASSERI ENDOW A RESEARCH CHAIR

Keyhan Mobasseri, MD, developed a passion for medicine while still in high school.

"I decided to become a physician, which was very hard in Iran," she says. "Two thousand people went for the medical school entrance exam, but they accepted only 45. When I passed the exam, I cried for two hours! It was the happiest day of my life."

She met her future husband, **Jafar Mobasseri, MD (DR'71)**, while attending Shiraz University of Medical Sciences. A few months after they married, the couple received medical internships in the United States, and, in the mid-1960s, they made their home in Cleveland.

Dr. Jafar Mobasseri, a radiologist, completed his residency at Cleveland Clinic and eventually became Director of Radiology at Hillcrest Hospital, where he was a pioneer in using the balloon catheter as an alternative to surgery to unblock arteries. Dr. Keyhan Mobasseri, an obstetrician/gynecologist, began practicing at Huron Road Hospital.

Recently, Dr. Jafar Mobasseri grappled with his own health crisis, cancer, for which he was treated at Cleveland Clinic's Glickman Urological & Kidney Institute. His experience, along with those of family members and friends who also faced cancer, led the couple to endow a research chair, the Dr. Keyhan Mobasseri and Dr. Jafar Mobasseri Endowed Chair for Innovations in Cancer Research. The chair holder is **Michael Kattan, PhD (CCF'04)**, Chair of Quantitative Health Sciences at Cleveland Clinic's Lerner Research Institute.

"We are working on software to integrate these tools in a patient's electronic health record."

— MICHAEL KATTAN, PhD

research was in prostate cancer, and he and his team now are creating online risk calculators for a number of other types of cancer, including colorectal, breast, prostate and thyroid, and also for heart disease.

"We are working on software to integrate these tools for automatic calculation in a patient's electronic health record, making it even easier for physicians to devise an effective treatment plan," he says.

Dr. Kattan, who has a joint appointment with the Glickman Urological & Kidney Institute, develops statistical cancer risk prediction models, also known as "risk calculators," that have become widely used in making patient treatment decisions. His initial



Keyhan Mobasseri, MD (right), with Michael Kattan, PhD, who is the first to hold the Dr. Keyhan Mobasseri and Dr. Jafar Mobasseri Endowed Chair for Innovations in Cancer Research.

The chair gift is especially important for his type of research, Dr. Kattan says.

"The work I do generally falls into a gap with traditional funding agencies because it's not traditional basic science or clinical trials work," he says. "It uses existing data to see what patients' experience has been and formulate advice for future patients."

"Although my research is economical because I don't need a lab or clinical trials, attracting funding is difficult for those reasons. That's why this endowed chair is so fantastic. The chair will support what I need including hardware, software, purchasing existing registries of patients who have consented to participate in medical research and staff to help analyze the data." In addition, Dr. Kattan says, his research results are immediate. "On publication, my research already is available for doctors' use and has instant impact – it can help a lot of people, including the next patient coming through the door."

In the near future, he would like to develop easily understood risk calculators that patients can use themselves, he says.

"I think what Dr. Kattan is doing is great," Dr. Keyhan Mobasseri says. "His work helps personalize treatment for the patient's type of cancer. I hope that establishing this chair will inspire other physicians to give to Cleveland Clinic, as well."

For a list of online risk calculators developed by Dr. Kattan for physicians, go to [realc.ccf.org](http://realc.ccf.org) ■

# Cleveland Through a Doctor's Lens

*(Editor's note: **Lee Adler, DO (IM'75)**, is as comfortable with a camera as he was with a stethoscope. He was in Cleveland recently and wanted to take shots of the city. When he shared his results with Alumni Connection, a decision was quickly made to give him a full page to display his work. Take a look.)*



Cleveland's industrial Flats with its many bridges.

My first experience in capturing images in Cleveland was in the early 1970s. I was drawn to the Flats, with its railroads, bridges, freighters and waterways – all symbols of the city's rich industrial and architectural heritage.

Returning to photograph the city 40 years later, I found a revival. There's clear evidence of the renewal of spirit reflected in the people and the activity I witnessed in the Flats and downtown.

But as a doctor and an alumnus of the Cleveland Clinic, I was particularly drawn to Lake View Cemetery. Here rest two luminaries who instructed and inspired multiple generations of medical professionals. Harvey Cushing, MD, is considered the "Father of Neurosurgery." He was born, raised, married and buried in Cleveland. He remains perhaps the single most important figure in the history of the brain. Cushing was a Yale graduate. My only connection is that I studied at Yale at the school's Cushing Library during my fellowship in Infectious Disease.



Two medical giants are buried in Lake View Cemetery, Dr. George W. Crile (right), a Cleveland Clinic founder, and Dr. Harvey Cushing, known as "The Father of Neurosurgery."

The other extraordinarily influential physician interred at Lake View is, of course, George Washington Crile, MD, born in 1864 in Chili, Ohio. He was a founder of Cleveland Clinic in 1921. In his stellar career he accomplished many firsts, including being recognized as the first surgeon to have succeeded in a direct blood transfusion.

President James A. Garfield's tomb and monument are located in Lake View Cemetery, too, as is the towering spire that rises above the plot of industrialist John D. Rockefeller.

My photographs contrast the impressive Rockefeller Obelisk versus the more humble memorial stones of doctors Crile and Cushing. To my mind, the size of these memorials do not reflect the comparative value of their contributions to the improvement of the human condition. ■

— Lee Adler



The Rockefeller obelisk at Lake View Cemetery.



Euclid Avenue at E. 14th Street, in the heart of Cleveland's Theater District.





If you have any questions about how to become a Centennial Legacy Society Member, please contact Alumni Relations Director Mindy Stroh at [strohm@ccf.org](mailto:strohm@ccf.org) or visit [alumni.clevelandclinic.org/giving](http://alumni.clevelandclinic.org/giving)



Dr. Robert E. Hermann MD, FACS (CCF'62), is inducted into the Centennial Legacy Society by Cleveland Clinic Alumni President Conrad H. Simpfendorfer (right), MD, FACS (S'04, MIS'05, S/HEP'06) during pinning ceremonies in Cleveland in September.

The Society was formed as a philanthropic tribute to those who mentored others during their training at Cleveland Clinic, as well as to provide funds to ensure the continuation of the highest-quality training for tomorrow's students, residents and fellows.

As fellow Cleveland Clinic alumni and medical leaders, we cordially invite you to join your colleagues who are making a significant impact on medical education by becoming Centennial Legacy Society members.

## CENTENNIAL LEGACY SOCIETY

Cleveland Clinic's founders were visionaries who set out to develop an integrated group practice in which diverse specialists would be able to think and act as one. Their commitment to their work and willingness to invest their own resources guaranteed the success of the new institution.

In anticipation of Cleveland Clinic's 100th anniversary in 2021, the Centennial Legacy Society is recognizing alumni who continue this tradition of excellence by making a pledge of \$5,000 or more to an alumni fund supporting the Power of Every One Centennial Campaign. We welcome you to join the Society and encourage colleagues and friends of the Alumni Association to do likewise. Your generous gifts enable Cleveland Clinic to better serve patients and increase the quality of training for students, residents and fellows.

### Visionary (\$20,000 or more)

**Dr. Leonard and Mrs. Marie Calabrese**  
**Dr. Robert and Mrs. Pauline Hermann**  
**Dr. John P. MacLaurin**  
**Dr. Susan Rehm**  
**Dr. Vinod and Dr. Sudarshan Sahgal**

### Founder (\$10,000–\$19,999)

**Dr. Lee and Mrs. Marlene Adler**  
**Dr. Janos Bacsanyi**  
**Dr. Hassan Barazi**  
**Drs. Zeyd and Lilian Ebrahim**  
**Dr. Pauline C. Kwok**  
**Drs. Justin and Erin Juliano**  
**Mrs. Kelsey and Dr. Jonathan Kaplan**  
*"In honor of James Zinz, MD"*  
**Drs. Walter\* and Isabella Laude\***  
**Dr. Christopher Leville**  
**Dr. Andrew and Mrs. Vivien Liu**  
**Dr. Thomas and Mrs. Janet Rice**  
**Dr. Herb Rogove**  
**Dr. Conrad C. Simpfendorfer and Mrs. Patricia V. Simpfendorfer**  
**Dr. S. Raju and Mrs. Padmavati Vatsavai**  
*"In honor of Dr. Franklin Michota"*

### Member (\$5,000–\$9,999)

**Drs. Amiya and Sipra Banerjee**  
*"In honor of Dr. Bernadine Healy"*  
**Dr. Kenneth Barngrover**  
**Dr. Edwin and Mrs. Beverly Beven**  
**Dr. Christine and Mr. Dean Booth**  
*"In memory of Mark S. Booth and Donald F. Noga"*

### Dr. Johan J. Bredée

*"In honor of the Cleveland Clinic and my CCF teachers for their perpetual inspiration"*

### Dr. Richard P. Carroll

**Dr. Ravi Chittajallu**  
**Drs. John and Mary Clough**  
**Dr. Philip Cusumano**

**Dr. Gary H. Dworkin**  
*"In honor of the Dworkin Family"*

### Drs. Toribio and Susan Flores

**Dr. Fetnat Fouad-Tarazi**  
**Dr. Raghav Govindarajan**  
**Dr. Mark and Mrs. Karen Grove**  
**Dr. Kuniaki Hayashi**  
**Dr. Andrew and Mrs. Jane Healy**  
*"In honor of Edward Benzel, MD"*

### Dr. Robert E. Hermann, MD, FACS (CCF'62)

**Dr. Norman and Mrs. Maryanne Hertzner**

### Dr. James Hodgman

**Drs. Octavian and Adriana Ioachimescu**  
**Dr. Frederic Joyce and Ms. Lynn Luthern**

**Dr. Leonard and Mrs. Susan Krajewski**

**Dr. Robert and Mrs. Brenda Kunkel**

### Dr. Julie A. Lahiri

**Dr. Albert C. Lammert**  
*"In memory of Patricia Karnosh Lammert"*

**Dr. Richard Lang and Mrs. Lisa Kraemer**

**Drs. Rande and Linda Lazar, and Lauren, Sophie and Charlie/JT**

**Dr. Marc and Mrs. Cynthia Levin**

**Dr. Geoffrey and Mrs. Susan Lefferts**

### Dr. James W. Lewis

**Dr. Gilbert and Mrs. Carol Lowenthal**

### Dr. Thomas and Mrs. Jill Maatman

**Dr. Paul and Mrs. Barbara MacGregor**  
*"In memory of Dr. Ralph Straffon and Dr. Augie Zabbo"*

### Drs. George and Lourdes Mathew

**Dr. Tony and Laura Milo**  
*"In honor of Toby Cosgrove, MD"*

### Dr. Asma M. Moheet & Family

**Dr. Eric and Mrs. Letty Muñoz**  
*"In honor of Jose Ozuna Muñoz"*

**Mrs. Paula Ockner and Dr. Stephen Ockner\***

**Dr. Thomas and Mrs. Christina Petinga**

**Dr. Marc and Mrs. Carol Pohl**

**Dr. Louis G. Prevosti**

**Dr. Michael Puff**

**Dr. Rochelle Rosian and Mr. Jon Straffon**

**Dr. Jeffrey and Mrs. Leah Rudell**

**Dr. Earl K. Shirey**  
*"In memory of Mrs. Mary Jean Shirey"*

**Drs. Susan Fox and Conrad H. Simpfendorfer**

**Dr. Divya Singh-Behl**  
*"In honor of Surinder Bahl"*

**Dr. Riaz A. Tarar**

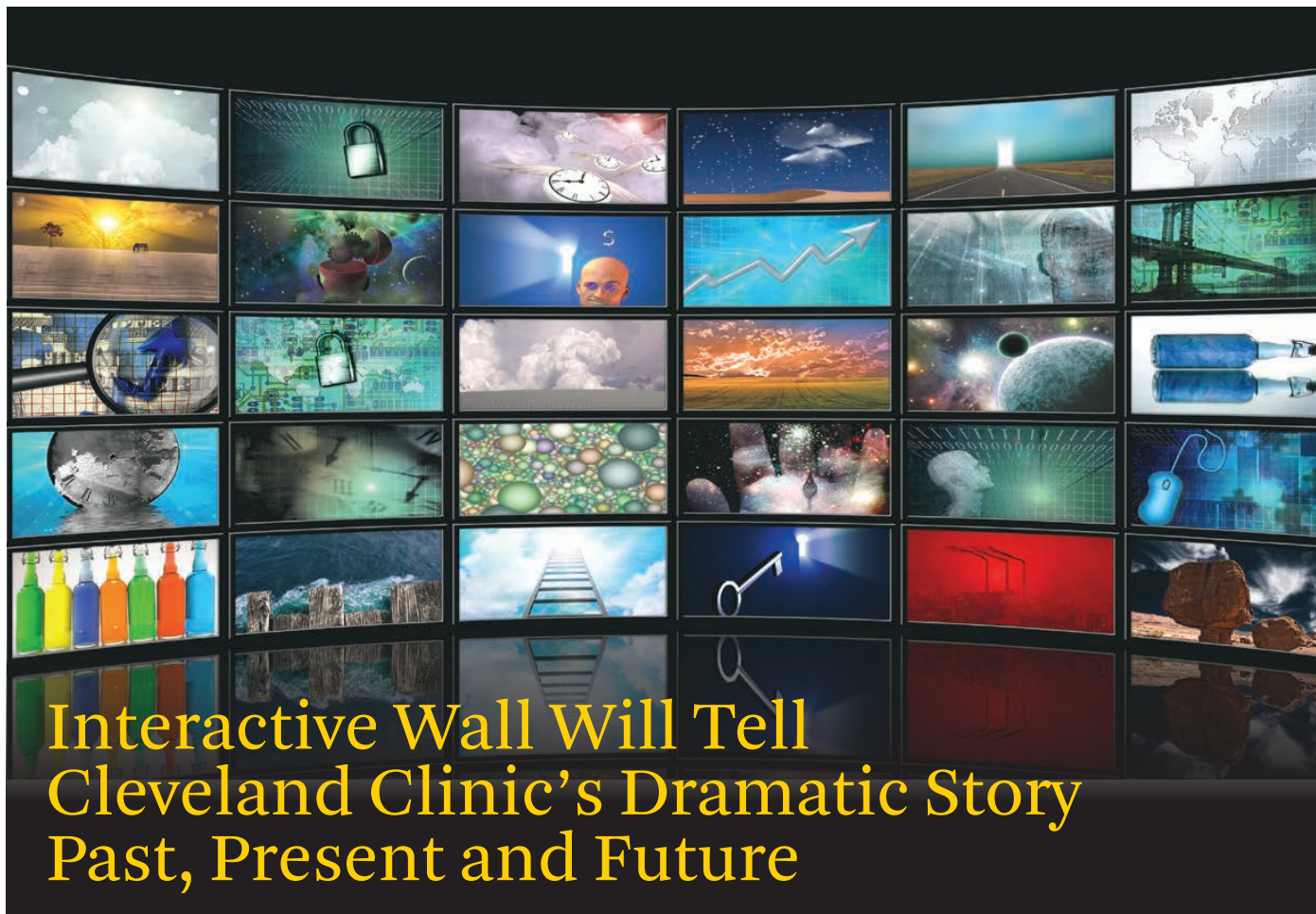
**Dr. Sanjiv Tewari**

**Dr. Jin and Mrs. Tammy Wang**

**Dr. Daniel and Mrs. Donna Marie Wilson**

**Dr. Jess Young**

**Drs. Belinda Yen-Lieberman and James M. Lieberman**



## Interactive Wall Will Tell Cleveland Clinic's Dramatic Story Past, Present and Future

Great stories deserve to be shared, remembered and even honored. That is why your Cleveland Clinic Alumni Association has developed and championed a unique project that will commemorate Cleveland Clinic's fascinating story of innovation, discovery and success.

We call it The Centennial Wall, a sophisticated, interactive display that will showcase many of the remarkable achievements that have made Cleveland Clinic an international leader in healthcare and have helped inspire generations of medical professionals whose contributions continue to be made.

A touch of a screen on the Centennial Wall could take you back to the past to explore the pioneering work of Cleveland Clinic doctors in fields such as gastroenterology, heart bypass surgery and organ transplantation. Another screen tap, and you might learn about today's groundbreaking work in facial reconstruction, telemedicine or genomics. Or, tap again and travel into the future to explore tomorrow's treatments and

cures made possible by innovative technology, vaccines, new therapies and techniques.

After a long period of conceptualization, design solicitation and site planning, we now seek philanthropic support for this important endeavor. When funded, the wall will be scheduled for completion by 2021, Cleveland Clinic's 100th anniversary.

We ask you to help us make the Centennial Wall a reality. Alumni Association members who contribute \$5,000 or more will be inducted into the Centennial Legacy Society, which was established as a way of celebrating our heritage by honoring those who taught us during our time at Cleveland Clinic. The Centennial Legacy Society also will ensure continuation of the highest-quality training for tomorrow's students, residents and fellows.

Please consider making your gift before Dec. 31 in honor of Toby Cosgrove, MD, who is transitioning from his role as Cleveland Clinic's CEO and President on that date.

To show our appreciation for your support, we will recognize your generous gift on our website ([alumni.clevelandclinic.org/giving](http://alumni.clevelandclinic.org/giving)) and in our publications.

You know how much Cleveland Clinic training has helped shape your life and career. Now is your opportunity to help shape the future of Cleveland Clinic and to write yourself into the next chapter of the Cleveland Clinic story. ■

*"The Centennial Wall is a sophisticated, interactive display that will showcase many of Cleveland Clinic's remarkable achievements."*

— MINDY STROH  
DIRECTOR, ALUMNI RELATIONS



## NEW SPECIALTY DIRECTORS WELCOMED TO ALUMNI BOARD

The Office of Alumni Relations at Cleveland Clinic is pleased to announce its recently elected specialty directors and salute those whose terms have just ended. New specialty directors assumed their roles at the most recent Board of Directors meeting on Sept. 15.

Incoming (I) and outgoing (O) specialty directors are listed in the chart.

We are excited about the institutional importance of our governing structure, which builds upon the relationships developed, maintained and nurtured within each specialty and the opportunities for our alumni to continue their contributions to enhancing Cleveland Clinic's excellence in medical education. ■

Cancer Center – Solid Tumor Oncology	I: Andrew Vassil, MD (IM'06, RO'10) O: Dale Shepard, MD, PhD (IM'06, H/O'09)
General Surgery	I: Kevin El-Hayek, MD (S'11, AL/FSE'12, S/HEP'13) O: Conrad Simpfendorfer, MD, FACS (S'04, MIS'05, S/HEP'06)
Infectious Disease	I: Alice Kim, MD (IM/PD'01, ID'03) O: Susan Rehm, MD (IM'81, ID'83)
Orthopaedic Surgery	I: Peter Evans, MD, PhD (CCF'01) O: Alan Davis, MD (ORS'89, ORS/FS'90)
Plastic Surgery	I: Jonathan Kaplan, MD (PL/RS'07) O: Ralph Rosato, MD, FACS (PS'92)
Otolaryngology & Communicative Disorders	I: Tom Abelson, MD (OTO'81) O: Toribio Flores, MD (OTOCD'82)
Research	I: Kaushik Ghosal, PhD (RES/NU'10) O: Richard Page, PhD (RES/HF'05)
Urology	I: Mark Licht, MD (U'94) O: Thomas Maatman, DO (U'85)

# WELCOME LERNER COLLEGE CLASS OF 2022!

The 14th class of the Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine has arrived, including 32 students who now are finding their way around the medical campus, working with their advisors and delving into their studies.

Like their predecessors, students in the Class of 2022 are exceptionally talented. In total, they have held 104 leadership positions prior to coming to Cleveland Clinic. All have tutored, mentored or coached others and have volunteered in at least 71 healthcare activities and 195 community activities outside of healthcare. Together, they have 86 scientific publications to their credit, have earned 219 awards, grants and scholarships, and been involved in 119 oral presentations.

These students have undertaken many interesting endeavors, such as participating in triathlons and running the Boston Marathon, as well as the Tokyo Marathon on a 20-person team. One played a football game in the Dallas

Cowboys AT&T Stadium. Another rock-jumped in Hawaii, and yet another backpacked the Appalachian Trail. One student enrolled in college at age 15 and graduated with an undergraduate degree at 17. Another student traveled across Europe. One performed video game music in the orchestra at the Smithsonian American Art Museum.

Among them are a novelist, a friend of former football running back Archie Griffin, and a former Division 1 soccer player. One student scuba dived with sea turtles and another swam with dolphins. One designed and built a preschool in South Africa and another founded a school's first LGBT sorority. A student played with the American Youth Harp Ensemble at Carnegie Hall, the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts and the White House.

Many have had interesting work experiences: firefighter, cliff jumper, English instructor, even an actor in a horror movie. Among them

are numerous musicians, whose instruments include piano, flute, guitar, violin, harmonium, recorder, clarinet, ukulele, bass, trumpet and harp. Four are singers. The students are athletic, as well. They run and play soccer, tennis, squash, ping pong, ice hockey, golf, cricket, basketball, softball, sand volleyball, football and flag football. They also fence, bike, swim, flyfish, snowboard and rock climb. Dancing is popular, and some practice Bollywood, fusion, rudimentary swing, Bhangra and modern dance.

Last but not least, the student body is diverse. The majority hail from the East Coast and Midwest, but a number of them, mostly U.S. citizens, are natives of China, Costa Rica, Ghana, India, Singapore and Uganda. This year's students speak many languages, including French, Spanish, Tamil, Sindhi, Lao, Akan, Lugisu, Luganda and Gujarati.

Cleveland Clinic warmly welcomes the impressive and distinctive Class of 2022! ■



**Frederick Allen**  
BA, Princeton University



**Jordan Bell**  
BA, Wesleyan University



**Melissa Coronado**  
BA, Harvard University



**Salam Bachour**  
BS, University of Minnesota



**Ellen Brinza**  
BS, Case Western Reserve University



**Emily Durbak**  
BS, The Ohio State University



**Sara Baicker-McKee**  
BA, Kenyon College



**Sophia Colombari Figueroa**  
BA, Stanford University



**Michael Haupt**  
BA, The Ohio State University

Continued on page 10

## CLASS OF 2022

Continued from page 9



**Jessica Jones**  
BS, Xavier University



**Shreya Louis**  
BS, University of California, Davis



**Jatin Narang**  
BS, University of Maryland, Baltimore County



**Wenting Ma**  
BS, University of Maryland, College Park



**Deborah Park**  
BS, University of Illinois at Chicago



**Navkiranjot Kaur**  
BS, Wayne State University



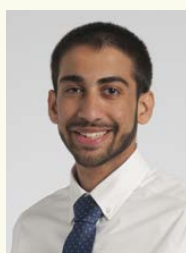
**Metabel Markwei**  
BA, Yale University  
MSc, Johns Hopkins University



**Daniel Santana**  
BA, Dartmouth College



**Jacob Knorr**  
BS, University of Cincinnati



**Arbaz Momin**  
BS, Mercer University



**Spencer Seballos**  
BA, Rice University



**Maxwell Lee**  
BS, Johns Hopkins University



**Frederick Morgan**  
BS, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill



**Megan Sheehan**  
BS, Case Western Reserve University



**Debra Linfield**  
BS, Stanford University



**Joan Nambuba**  
BS, Duke University  
MSBS, Duke University



**Weilin Song**  
BS, University of California, Los Angeles



**Vigneshwar Subramanian**  
BS, Cornell University



**Tisileli Tuifua**  
BS, University of Utah



**Raoul Wadhwa**  
BA, Kalamazoo College



**Alexia Zagouras**  
BA, Harvard University



**Johnathan Zeng**  
BS, University of Pennsylvania



**Ryan Zhang**  
BS, Duke University

## RESIDENTS, FELLOWS, STUDENTS, ALUMNI GET ABOARD ANNUAL GOODTIME CRUISE

It was “Ahoy!” and “All Hands on Deck” for the Cleveland Clinic Alumni Association’s annual cruise for residents, fellows and medical students on the Goodtime III. It continues to be a great way to welcome newcomers to Cleveland and to show them the city’s skyline from the Cuyahoga River and the waters of Lake Erie. Dinner, music and dancing – lots of dancing – were enjoyed by all.

More than 300 guests attended this year’s cruise on Aug. 13. Save the date for next year, too, mates. It’s set for Aug. 5. ■

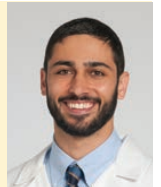


Everyone’s ready to get aboard the Goodtime III for a cruise on Lake Erie.

### Alumni Scholarship Recipient Francis May

Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine student Francis May has been chosen to receive a \$5,000 Alumni Scholarship for the 2017–2018 academic year.

The scholarship is offered to one second-year student in recognition of personal accomplishments, leadership potential, academic achievement, humanistic dedication and/or passion for research.



*Francis May*



The photo in the last issue of *Alumni Connection* that was identified as the anticipated Lakewood, Ohio, family health center was of a different facility. Here is the correct artist’s rendering of the Cleveland Clinic Lakewood Family Health Center.

## Celebrate the Strengths of Women Who are Advancing Medicine

Every September during Women in Medicine Month, Cleveland Clinic honors the women on the professional staff who bring a rich diversity to the organization, **Brian G. Donley, MD (CCF'95)**, Chief of Staff says. "Their numbers and contributions continue to grow, with women staff members now making up more than 36 percent of our total staff."

Cleveland Clinic now has women in key leadership positions across the organization, including Chief Quality Officer, Chief Experience Officer, two hospital presidents, the Lerner Research Institute Chair, Associate Dean of Lerner College of Medicine, six members of the Board of Governors, and many department chairs, center directors and initiative leaders.

Through Cleveland Clinic's Women's Professional Staff Association, staff leaders offer their time, wisdom and support to their colleagues with continuing activities, seminars and mentorship opportunities, Dr. Donley says. "They also offer us a diverse perspective that drives collegiality, teamwork and innovation. Please join me in thanking our 1,276 women staff members for their dedication, service, passion and commitment to our organization." ■



## 2017 LERNER COLLEGE GRADS NOW IN TOP RESIDENCY PROGRAMS

The 2017 Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine graduating class members, all of whom matched to highly regarded residency programs, now are training at some of the most prestigious hospitals in the country.

Fifty-five percent of the college's ninth graduating class matched to their first-choice program, and 86 percent matched to one of their top three choices, including Cleveland Clinic, Johns Hopkins, New York-Presbyterian and the University of California, Los Angeles.

Cumulatively, 42 percent of the graduates matched to a hospital ranked among the top 10 in the nation by *U.S. News & World Report*. The largest number, 16 percent, matched to Cleveland Clinic.

**James B. Young, MD (CCF'95)**, Professor of Medicine and Executive Dean of the college, also noted that:

- The 32-member class of 2022 was chosen from nearly 1,800 applicants
- The college's matriculant GPA and MCAT scores continue trending higher than the national average
- During 2016–17, more students from Case Western Reserve University and the Lerner College of Medicine were awarded NIH Medical Research Scholarships than were students from any other school

See the accompanying chart to find out where these graduates have matched to their residency programs. ■

### National Residency Matching Placements of All Lerner College of Medicine Graduates, Classes of 2009–2017

INSTITUTION	NO.	%	INSTITUTION	NO.	%
Cleveland Clinic Foundation	43	15.7	Washington University/Barnes-Jewish Hospital	4	1.5
Johns Hopkins University	16	5.8	Children's Hospital of Philadelphia	3	1.1
University of Pittsburgh Medical Center	11	4.0	Fairview Hospital/Cleveland Clinic	3	1.1
Brigham and Women's Hospital	9	3.3	Henry Ford Hospital	3	1.1
Yale – New Haven Medical Center	9	3.3	Hospital for Special Surgery – Cornell Medical Center	3	1.1
Stanford University	8	2.9	Thomas Jefferson University	3	1.1
University of California – San Francisco	8	2.9	University of Michigan Hospitals and Health Centers	3	1.1
University of Pennsylvania Health System	8	2.9	University of Texas Southwestern Medical School	3	1.1
University of Washington	8	2.9	University of Wisconsin Hospital and Clinics	3	1.1
Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center	7	2.6	Baylor College of Medicine	2	.7
Massachusetts General Hospital	7	2.6	Brown University/Rhode Island Hospital	2	.7
University of California – Los Angeles	7	2.6	Children's Hospital of Los Angeles	2	.7
New York Presbyterian Hospital (Columbia campus)	6	2.2	Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center	2	.7
CWRU/University Hospitals Medical Center	5	1.8	Emory University School of Medicine	2	.7
Duke University Hospital	5	1.8	Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai	2	.7
McGaw Medical Center of Northwestern University	5	1.8	New York University School of Medicine	2	.7
New York Presbyterian Hospital (Cornell campus)	5	1.8	Oregon Health and Science University	2	.7
Vanderbilt University Medical Center	5	1.8	University at Buffalo	2	.7
Jackson Memorial Hospital	4	1.5	University of California – Davis	2	.7
University of Utah	4	1.5	University of California – San Diego	2	.7

# Alumnus Returns to Cleveland After 30 Years, Praises Functional Medicine Center

Alumnus **Greg W. Natello, MD (IM'85)**, says the internal medicine residency he completed 30 years ago at Cleveland Clinic was a deeply moving personal experience. Through it, he says, he discovered a second family and established a foundation that has profoundly influenced the rest of his life.

"My mentors were compassionate master clinicians, dedicated to providing exemplary patient care while always advancing the founding mission, 'to provide better care of the sick, investigation into their problems, and further education of those who serve,'" he says.

Among those mentors were Cleveland Clinic physicians Jess Young, Stephen Ockner, Phillip Hall, Donald Vidt, Ray Gifford, Robert Tarazi, Edward Sivak, Maurice Hanson and Leonard Calabrese.

That is why this past May, Dr. Natello was happy to return to Cleveland Clinic as a visiting alumnus for a two-week, intensive preceptorship at the Center for Functional Medicine (CFM).

"To those unfamiliar with the concept, functional medicine is an innovative approach to addressing the burgeoning epidemic of chronic disease," he explains. "Functional medicine patients typically have a myriad of advanced symptoms and challenging complex chronic illness."

He said he was excited when Toby Cosgrove, MD, CEO and President of Cleveland Clinic, implemented the CFM in October 2014, the first of its kind at an academic medical center.

Cleveland Clinic has changed between his visits, he says, observing the culture of caring and the nurturing, healing environment, as well as meticulous attention to every detail of the patient experience and the high level of caregiver engagement and sense of ownership.

As to his visit to the CFM, Dr. Natello says he deeply appreciated the exchange of ideas, the learning opportunity and all the time generously provided to him by the staff. And, he notes, "There really is no place like home." ■



Attending the recent Functional Medicine Roundtable Program at Cleveland Clinic were, from left, Michelle Beidelschies, PhD, Director of Education, Center for Functional Medicine; Alan Hull, MD, PhD, Associate Dean, Curricular Affairs, Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine; Patrick Hanaway, MD, Acting Medical Director, Center for Functional Medicine; George Schatz, MD, visiting resident, University of Arizona; Brett Graham, medical student, Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine, Class of 2020, President, Functional Medicine Student Interest Group; Greg Natello, MD, visiting observer, former cardiology resident; Mark Hyman, MD, Director, Center for Functional Medicine; Lina Costanzo, medical student, Ohio University College of Osteopathic Medicine, Class of 2020; Jeffrey Bland, PhD, FACN, FACB, visiting professor, Co-Founder, Institute for Functional Medicine and Founder/President, Personalized Lifestyle Medicine Institute; Daniel Moussa, Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine, Class of 2021; Julie Foucher, MD, Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine, Class of 2017; and Stephen Hudson, MD, Northeast Ohio Medical University, Class of 2017.

## Explaining Functional Medicine

The Cleveland Clinic Center for Functional Medicine (CFM) is the first such practice in the United States within an academic medical center. The Center is a collaboration between Cleveland Clinic and the national Institute for Functional Medicine.

The Functional Medicine model of care originated in the early 1980s and is founded on the science of creating health by treating the whole system and focusing on root causes, not just the reported symptoms. This model of care relies on extensive documentation of a patient's medical history and the environmental and/or lifestyle factors that may be contributing to their current state of health focusing on using food as medicine.

Educational efforts within the Center are aimed at increasing awareness, accessibility and application of Functional Medicine as a proven clinical model within the standard of care at the Cleveland Clinic. As part of these efforts, the Center hosts Grand Rounds as well as roundtable discussions with medical students who join from various institutions including Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine, Ohio University College of Osteopathic Medicine and Northeast Ohio Medical University. The Center also welcomes physicians to participate in their preceptorship program where they can learn about the Functional Medicine model of care and appreciate how it can address complex, chronic disease.

## ALUMNI PERSPECTIVE

### What's In A Name? Our Heritage

Looking back at Cleveland Clinic's main campus when I arrived as an intern in 1975, it was but a sliver of today's sprawling and impressive edifices. There were no names for anything, and yet history was all around us. Dr. Barney Crile, the famous son of a famous Cleveland Clinic founder, was at lunch

in the 'doctor's' dining room almost every day and his stories about the founders resonated even though we were then half-a-century into the legacy of this institution. Each addition of a named building adds to our heritage that we must both honor and preserve. So, stay tuned to the Alumni Association's efforts

to create a living, breathing, interactive story wall that will highlight both our storied past and our exciting future. It should be in place as we approach the centennial of Cleveland Clinic in 2021, barely 1,000 days away!

**Leonard O. Calabrese, DO**  
(IM'78, RH'80)  
*Chair, History Project*

## LOOKING BACK

# CLEVELAND CLINIC'S NAMED BUILDINGS: A WHO'S WHO

Who are or were the people whose names adorn many Cleveland Clinic buildings on main campus today? Most are philanthropists and grateful patients or their families.

Here, we introduce you to some of the individuals whose generosity and dedication to patients and the local community have helped propel Cleveland Clinic's growth and development.

### THE CRILE BUILDING

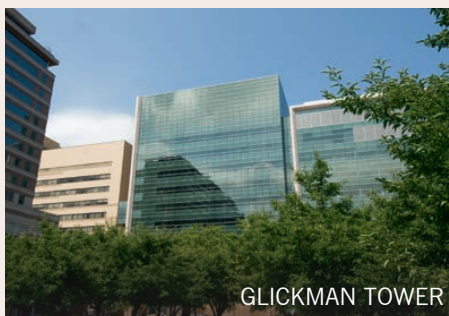
The Crile Building at 2049 E. 100<sup>th</sup> Street is a landmark on main campus – as it should be – considering it is named for members of the extended Crile family. Among them, of course, are George W. Crile, MD, one of the founders of Cleveland Clinic, and his well-known son, George Crile Jr. (Barney), MD, along with a number of other prestigious family members. The building was part of a major Cleveland Clinic expansion in the 1980s and serves as an outpatient facility. Some will know it as the “A Building.” The designer was Cesar Pelli, an internationally acclaimed master of tall building architecture.



THE CRILE BUILDING

### THE GLICKMAN TOWER AND GLICKMAN UROLOGICAL & KIDNEY INSTITUTE

The Glickman Tower and Glickman Urological & Kidney Institute were named after Carl D. Glickman, formerly president of The Glickman

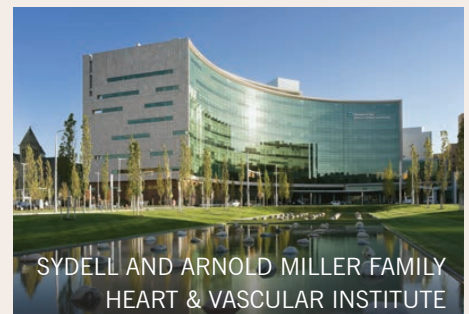


GLICKMAN TOWER

Organization, a real estate development and management firm. He had a kidney transplant at Cleveland Clinic in 2002 that saved his life. In gratitude, he and his wife, Barbara, made significant gifts to Cleveland Clinic, which led to naming the institute and the building that houses it. Their gifts also included support of Cleveland Clinic's Children's Dialysis Center.

### THE SYDELL AND ARNOLD MILLER FAMILY HEART & VASCULAR INSTITUTE

Cleveland Clinic's heart institute and the building in which it is located, also known as the institution's “front door,” are named for Sydel and Arnold Miller and their family. Mrs. Miller, a grateful heart patient, and her daughters, Lauren Spilman and Stacie Halpern, made a gift supporting construction of the Sydel and Arnold Miller Family Pavilion and the naming of the institute.



SYDELL AND ARNOLD MILLER FAMILY  
HEART & VASCULAR INSTITUTE

### THE TAUSSIG CANCER INSTITUTE

The Taussig Cancer Institute was dedicated in July 2000. Both the institute and the building were named in honor of Daniel T. Taussig, founder of Taussig's Graphic Supply, Inc. Mr. Taussig died of cancer in September 1996 at the age of 67, and his family provided a generous lead gift toward construction of the

*Continued on page 17*

# Cleveland Clinic: In the News

## Cleveland Clinic Ranks First in Cardiology, Heart Surgery, Urology

For the 23<sup>rd</sup> consecutive year, Cleveland Clinic was ranked No.1 in the nation by *U.S. News & World Report* for both cardiology and heart surgery, and this year it also ranked No. 1 in urology.

Overall, for the second year in a row, Cleveland Clinic was named the No. 2 hospital in the nation. This is the 19<sup>th</sup> consecutive year that it has ranked among the top five hospitals in America.

Cleveland Clinic ranked nationally in 14 specialties, including 10 in the top five nationwide. Statewide and regionally, Cleveland Clinic once again ranked No. 1 in Ohio and the Cleveland area.

Alphabetically, by specialty, here are this year's *U.S. News & World Report* rankings for Cleveland Clinic\*:

#7	Cancer	#2	Nephrology
#1	Cardiology & Heart Surgery	#6	Neurology & Neurosurgery
#3	Diabetes & Endocrinology	#9	Ophthalmology
#16	Ear, Nose & Throat	#3	Orthopedics
#2	Gastroenterology & GI Surgery	#3	Pulmonology
#5	Geriatrics	#2	Rheumatology
#5	Geriatrics	#1	Urology

*\*Also high-performing in Psychiatry*

## Cleveland Clinic Partners with Boston Children's Hospital

Cleveland Clinic and Boston Children's Hospital have entered an agreement to provide pediatric heart services through Cleveland Clinic's national network, bringing together two world-renowned institutions. This collaboration is the first of its kind to offer complex pediatric care to employers in our national networks, giving more children access to world-class specialized care.

As part of the collaboration, Boston Children's Hospital is now a member of Cleveland Clinic's network, the first national-scale network of selected, high-value cardiovascular

care providers to contract with employers and other payers. Over time, Cleveland Clinic hopes to expand the services to include other complex and rare pediatric care, which would encourage more patients to travel to Cleveland or Boston to receive care.

Boston Children's is the No. 1 ranked Children's Hospital and has been a top-ranked heart care program for 22 consecutive years.

## Dermatopathy Self-Assessment Workshop Held

Cleveland Clinic hosted the 45th Annual Dermatopathy Self-Assessment Workshop at the Lerner Research Institute in September. The workshop has been directed by **Wilma F. Bergfeld, MD, FACP (IM'65, D'68)** every year as part of the education efforts of Cleveland Clinic's Department of Dermatology and Pathology. The workshop is assisted by numerous associates including other Cleveland Clinic faculty and doctors from institutions both local and out of state.

This advanced dermatopathology workshop was devoted to the study of 50 microscopic slides using a self-assessment approach of multiple-choice and single-answer questions. A discussion followed, which included the case description, diagnosis, differential considerations and pertinent comments about each disease. Emphasis was placed on benign and malignant skin tumors, bullous diseases and inflammatory dermatoses. An interactive computer system assisted audience participation in the discussion.

The goal of the workshop was to enable attendees to:

- Analyze the broad spectrum of disorders in dermatopathology
- Recommend an approach to the unknown that will assist in the final diagnosis
- Cite specific features and differential diagnoses
- Demonstrate advances and their applications to diagnosis

Dermatologists, pathologists, dermatopathologists, plastic surgeons, oral pathologists and interested physicians and

non-physicians were among the invited participants.

The workshop is approved by the American Academy of Dermatology for recognized credits and may be used toward the American Academy of

Dermatology's Continuing Medical Education Award. ■



# THE PERSONAL STORIES BEHIND PATIENTS' JOURNEYS

## A positive outcome.

It's what doctors live for and what patients hope for.

Behind the successful, often life-changing procedures performed at Cleveland Clinic are the personal stories of patients' life journeys and the health challenges that brought them here.

One story is that of Jim Thomas. When the veteran Michigan State football player and his teammates gathered for their annual reunion, they noticed that Jim didn't look well. In fact, he needed help – fast. He was air-lifted to Cleveland Clinic for open heart surgery.

In another instance, a devoted father and family man enjoyed 11 more years of life than predicted, thanks to a heart transplant at Cleveland Clinic.

Here are their stories:

## THE SPARTAN BOND

Last March, Michigan State University "Spartans" alumni, members of the MSU Football Players Association, hosted an outing in South Florida. It was while



Jim Thomas

there that Jim Thomas suddenly experienced shortness of breath and was taken by ambulance to the nearest emergency department.

He was diagnosed with a myocardial infarction and immediately was admitted. Cardiac catheterization revealed that a previously stented cardiac vessel was occluded and a second vessel, also determined to be blocked, was in a location that would be difficult to open and stent.

A fellow Spartan alumnus, **Alan Davis, MD (ORS'89, ORS/FS'90)**, an orthopaedic surgeon, is on the staff of Cleveland Clinic and interceded. Jim, his wife,

Martha, and Dr. Davis discussed a plan of action. Jim has a family history of cardiac disease. With his high-risk status, he and Martha felt he needed to be cared for at a Cleveland Clinic facility.

"I'm grateful for the expert care I received through Cleveland Clinic and for the quick action my old Spartan buddy, Al Davis, showed when it came to realizing I needed help," Jim said. "Even though it's been nearly four decades since we were on the field together, the unspoken Spartan bond remains amazingly strong."

— JIM THOMAS



Dr. Davis contacted **Wael Barsoum, MD (ORS'00)**, President of Cleveland Clinic Florida, who coordinated communication with **Fabio Potenti MD (CRS'98)**, Chief Medical Operating Officer. They arranged for Jim's transfer to Cleveland Clinic Florida in Weston. Evaluation determined that Jim would need open heart surgery; that the procedure would be extensive and the recovery would be long, with travel home limited afterward.

Jim and his wife, who live in Akron, Ohio, decided to have the surgery at Cleveland Clinic's main campus in Cleveland because it was closer to home, to Martha's business and to their two sons.

Jim was too high-risk to travel on a commercial airline. So, Dr. Davis contacted Cleveland Clinic's **Brian Donley, MD (CCF'95)**, Chief of Staff, and **James Gutierrez, MD (CCF'96)**, Chairman of Community Internal Medicine, who coordinated with Dr. Potenti to arrange for a Cleveland Clinic transfer team to evacuate Mr. Thomas to Cleveland.

Once he arrived, the cardiovascular team determined that Jim would, indeed, need open heart surgery, which

was performed by **Faisal Bakaeen, MD (CCF'03)**, a surgeon in the Robert and Suzanne Tomsich Department of Cardiac Surgery. Two vessels were bypassed and one valve replaced, while

another valve required repair.

After several days in the ICU, Jim was transferred to a regular nursing floor. He was discharged from the hospital in time to attend his son's wedding – only a month after his complex surgery.

Jim continues to recover well and was able to reunite with his Spartan teammates in early August. They met at the National Football League Hall of Fame Ceremonies in Canton, Ohio, to celebrate the induction of fellow teammate Morton Andersen, who went on to become one of the greatest kickers in pro-football history.

## A LIFE WELL LED

Surinder Bahl led a life many people would have enjoyed.

He was a man of faith, devoted to his family, well-respected, humble and generous. He also was a successful physicist, the Chief Scientific Officer at Kodak and an innovator who held 12 patents.

But Mr. Bahl had a bad heart. The day before his scheduled bypass surgery at Cleveland Clinic, he had a massive heart

## LOOKING BACK

Continued from page 14



building. The Taussig family recently made a new generous gift that helped support construction of the outpatient cancer building, the Taussig Cancer Center, which opened in the spring of 2017. The original cancer institute building will reopen as Cleveland Clinic Children's in the fall of 2018.

There are many other named buildings on campus, too, making this a topic we will return to in a later issue. ■

## LOOKING BACK

*Alumni Connection's*

"Looking Back" series highlights important or interesting moments in Cleveland Clinic's history, serving as a retrospective of the institution's storied past as its 100th birthday approaches in 2021. You are invited to submit your own topics for us to consider for this series. Please contact Mindy Stroh, Director, Alumni Relations, at [strohm@ccf.org](mailto:strohm@ccf.org).

attack. It was determined that he needed a new heart.

Cleveland Clinic was top of mind when he considered surgery, not only for its reputation as the No. 1 heart care center, but also because it was recommended by his daughter-in-law, **Divya Singh-Behl, MD (D'02, DS'07)**, who trained at Cleveland Clinic, served as Chief Resident and on the Cleveland Clinic staff prior to entering private practice. She also has been a member of Cleveland Clinic's Alumni board since 2008. In addition, his son, Nick Behl (he and his wife use a different spelling for their last name than Nick's father), worked at Morgenthaler Partners for David Morgenthaler, a Life Emeritus Trustee of Cleveland Clinic.

Mr. Bahl developed a deep respect for, and trust in, his heart care team, which included then Cleveland Clinic transplant surgeon **Patrick McCarthy, MD (CCF'90)**, **Donald Hammer, MD (CCF'98)**, Director of Cardiology Surgical Services, who was his original cardiologist; and, **Randall Starling,**

very proactive in engaging with the various doctors to understand the best approach, as well as to articulate my father's health issues with the staff. And she also communicated the complex health issues to my father."

Mr. Bahl never learned who his heart donor was, only that the man died in an accident in Michigan. However, his family was allowed to write to the heart donor's next-of-kin and express their



**Surinder Bahl**

appreciation for this lifesaving gift. "We wrote that the donor helped to save a good, ethical and well-respected father who taught his children to

put family first and be good to people," Nick says. "Furthermore, my father said he would not take for granted this opportunity for additional high-quality life."

And, indeed, he did not. With those 11 extra years, Mr. Bahl was able to enjoy such family milestones as:

- The marriage of his daughter, Kanika Bahl
- The births of four grandchildren
- His 40<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary
- Family vacations and holiday celebrations

Mr. Bahl died on Jan. 27, 2015, at the age of 77 – sooner than he and his family wanted, but later than he had expected.

"We are very grateful that we had access to the world-class expertise of Cleveland Clinic," Nick says. "Knowing that my father had access to some of the best heart care in the world has given us comfort – knowing that we tried everything possible to give my dad the best chance for his health and a longer life." ■

---

Cleveland Clinic was top of mind when he considered surgery.

---

**MD, MPH (CCF'95)**, Vice Chairman of Cardiovascular Medicine, Operations.

The transplant took place in January 2004.

"My father's health condition was complex, and the strong partnership that developed between patient and physicians was really needed and clearly evident," Nick says. "At this time, my wife was a resident in the dermatology group at Cleveland Clinic. She internalized how exceptional the Cleveland Clinic standards of healthcare are. She was



Award recipients from left: Jeffrey Cohen, MD; Aaron Brzezinski, MD; Thomas Hamilton, MD; Michael McHugh, MD; Bobby Strayhan; Erica Shields, BSN, RN. Not pictured: Carol Farver, MD.

## AWARDS RECOGNIZE STAFF MEMBERS COMPASSION, ACHIEVEMENTS

Staff members were honored for their service at a celebration on Sept. 8. “The professional staff represents the essence and the spirit of our organization,” said **Charles Modlin, MD (U/RT’96)**, President of the medical staff. “Each of us is part of something special in medicine, a unique model of care that makes us One Cleveland Clinic.”

**Brian Donley, MD (CCF’95)**, Chief of Staff, presented the Bruce Hubbard Stewart Award for Humanistic Medicine to **Aaron Brzezinski, MD (CCF’92)**, Department of Gastroenterology and Hepatology. The annual award, established in 1985, honors a staff member who shows compassion, respect, professionalism and integrity in the care of patients.

“I have never taken for granted the privilege of taking care of my patients and having the trust of my colleagues,” Dr. Brzezinski said.

Dr. Donley also introduced this year’s Maria and Sam Miller Excellence Awards, which are presented annually to Cleveland Clinic physicians, nurses, scientists and others who demonstrate exemplary service and dedication to excellence. They are nominated by their peers and selected by a committee of Cleveland Clinic leaders.

### This year’s Miller Award recipients are:

- Police Officer of the Year: Bobby Strayhan
- Nurse of the Year: Erica Shields, BSN, RN
- Scientific Achievement Clinical Research: **Jeffrey A. Cohen, MD (CCF’94)**
- Scientific Achievement Basic Science: **Thomas A. Hamilton, PhD (CCF’87)**
- Master Educator: **Carol F. Farver, MD (CCF’95)**
- Master Clinician: **Michael J. McHugh, MD (PD’78)**

Cleveland Clinic CEO and President Toby Cosgrove, MD, congratulated the honorees and 49 retiring staff members, who collectively represent 1,272 years of service.

“Through your collaboration and innovation, I have witnessed the growth and success of our organization,” Dr. Cosgrove said. “I know our founders would agree that we have the best team in the world. Your passion, empathy and expertise have made us one of the preeminent medical institutions in the world.” ■

Read news of interest from around Cleveland Clinic through presentations made by special guests before the Alumni Association’s Board of Directors. Go to our Before the Board coverage at [alumni.clevelandclinic.org/alumni-connection](http://alumni.clevelandclinic.org/alumni-connection).

# contacts

**Teresa Dews, MD (AN'92, PM'92)**, has been named Vice President of Medical Operations at Hillcrest Hospital, where she had been Medical Director of the Pain Management Clinic.



*Teresa Dews, MD*



*Mary LaPlante, MD*

At the American Medical Association's (AMA) Annual Meeting in June, **Mary LaPlante, MD, FACOG (CCF'06)**, of Regional Obstetrics and Gynecology, was elected to a four-year term on the AMA's Council on Science and Public Health. She was sponsored by the American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists.

**Suneel Apte, MBBS, DPhil (CCF'96)**, Lerner Research Institute, Department of Biomedical



*Suneel Apte, MBBS*

Engineering, received a \$1.5 million Distinguished Investigator award from the American Heart Association and The Paul G. Allen Frontiers Group. Dr. Apte will study how the breakdown of the extracellular matrix may contribute to heart disease.

**Shazam Hussain, MD (NRES'10)**, has been named Director of the Cerebrovascular Center. He received his medical degree from the University

of Saskatchewan in Saskatoon, Canada, followed by his Neurology Residency and Vascular Neurology Fellowship at the University of Alberta



*Shazam Hussain, MD*

in Edmonton, Canada. Dr. Hussain then transitioned to Cleveland Clinic for an Endovascular Surgical Neuroradiology Fellowship. His research and clinical interests include endovascular therapy for cerebrovascular disease.

Chief of Staff **Brian Donley, MD (CCF'95)**, has been selected to serve on Cleveland State University's Presidential Search Committee. The group includes board members, students, faculty, staff and community members who will work with a consulting firm to review potential candidates and make a recommendation to the CSU Board of Trustees.



*Brian Donley, MD*

**Peter Rasmussen, MD (NS/CB'00)**, recently was inducted into the first class of fellows of the Society of Neurointerventional Surgery (SNIS). Dr. Rasmussen is a member of Cleveland



*Peter Rasmussen, MD*

Clinic's Cerebrovascular Center staff and serves as the Medical

Director of Distance Health. He was recognized by SNIF for demonstrating dedication to ensuring that more patients have access to effective treatments for stroke, brain aneurysms and other life-threatening diseases.

**J. Harry "Bud" Isaacson, MD (CCF'93)**, was selected to receive The Evelyn V. Hess, MD, MACP, Master Teacher Award of the Ohio Chapter of the American College of Physicians for 2017 at the chapter meeting in Columbus in October. The Master Teacher Award



*J. Harry Isaacson, MD*

recognizes physicians who have at least a decade of experience actively teaching medical students, residents or colleagues.

**Jorge Garcia, MD (CCF'05)**, has been selected as the first holder of the Kerscher Family Chair for Clinical Prostate Cancer Research, established with a gift from the Kerscher Family Foundation. This term chair provides immediate resources for Dr. Garcia's research. The prestigious appointment recognizes Dr. Garcia's commitment to clinical research that will improve prostate cancer treatment.

**Aaron Brzezinski, MD (CCF'92)**, Gastroenterology & Hepatology, and **Christina Lindenmeyer, MD**, Residency-Fellowship Training Program, received the Bruce Hubbard Stewart Award for Humanistic Medicine. This award honors staff and house staff who combine compassion, respect, professionalism and integrity in the care of patients and encourages

the realization that optimal care blends technical skill with an understanding of patients' emotional and intellectual needs.



*Aaron Brzezinski, MD*

**Richard Naugle, PhD, ABPP (CCF'87)**, has been elected President-Elect of the American Academy of Clinical Neuropsychology. His term as President-Elect will begin in February 2018.

**John Bergfeld, MD (S'67, ORS'70)**, Director of the Operating Room and Senior Surgeon in the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery, recently was



*John Bergfeld, MD*

honored by the Chinese Sports Medicine Society with the prestigious Magnolia Award for his contributions to sports medicine. For more than a decade, Dr. Bergfeld was the head team physician for the Cleveland Browns.

**Allison Vidimos, MD (D'89, DS'91)**, Chair of Dermatology, accepted the gavel as the President of the American College of Mohs Surgery at its annual meeting in April. She is the first woman to hold this office. The Mohs College is the professional organization for fellowship-trained practitioners of Dermatologic Surgery and Cutaneous Oncology.



*Allison Vidimos, MD*

*Continued on page 20*

# contacts

Continued from page 19



John Queen, MD

**John Queen, MD (CCF'99)**, is the President-Elect of the Ohio American College of Emergency

Physicians. He will begin his term as President in May 2018.

**Joe G. Hollyfield, PhD (CCF'95)**, emeritus staff of the Department of Ophthalmic Research at the Cole Eye Institute, received the BrightFocus Scientific Impact Award earlier this month. Dr. Hollyfield



Joe G. Hollyfield, PhD

was recognized for his academic leadership and research in the biology of the outer retina and mechanisms of degenerative retinal diseases.

**Lara Jehi, MD (N'04, NPHY'06)**, Epilepsy Center, was appointed for a four-year term as the next Chair of the



Lara Jehi, MD

Surgical Therapies Commission of the International League Against Epilepsy. The overall goal of the commission is to examine the area of epilepsy surgery

evaluation, implementation, risks and outcomes to recommend how the league can move forward with a global perspective.

**Ashish Khanna, MD (AN'14, CCM'15)**, staff intensivist in the Surgical ICU, has been accepted as a Fellow of the College of Critical Care Medicine. This title is reserved

for a small portion of the more than 18,000 members of the Society of Critical Care Medicine. Dr. Khanna's acceptance was based on his commitment to the ideals and practice of multiprofessional critical care.

**Basem Abdelmalak, MD (AN'00, CCM'01)**, was elected Vice President of the Society for Ambulatory Anesthesia (SAMBA) at its annual meeting in May. SAMBA is a subspecialty society of



Basem Abdelmalak, MD

practicing anesthesiologists and leaders of ambulatory and non-operating room anesthesia services in the U.S.

**Daniel Shoskes MD, FRCSC (U/RT'94)**, was elected President of the Society for Infection and Inflammation in Urology and appointed Chair of the newly created Center for Men's Health within the Department of Urology.

**Claudia Mason, MD, MSc (CCF'08)**, recently was recognized as a 2017 Physician Hero by the Palm Beach County Medical Society. The award goes to individuals whose skills and dedication to the profession have contributed in significant ways to the



Claudia Mason, MD

betterment of local, national and/or international healthcare. She was honored for her dedication to furthering the health of women both within and outside of Cleveland Clinic.

## Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine Alumni

**Jeff Clark, MD (CCLCM'15)**, presented at the American Psychiatric Association annual meeting, held in San Diego in May, and won the grand prize. After residency, he is planning on completing an addiction fellowship and then working in community addiction psychiatry as well as continuing to work on his software. He is building a patient-focused course in cognitive behavioral therapy called Slumber Camp and planning to present his project at the APA Psychiatry Innovation Lab.



Jeff Clark, MD

**Rebecca Ganetzky, MD (CCLCM'10)**, recently won her first National Institutes of Health K08 grant, which provides support and protected time so that physician investigators can focus on basic, translational or cancer research. Dr. Ganetzky practices within the Mitochondrial Medicine Center at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP), focusing on biochemical genetics. She completed her residency and fellowship in clinical biochemical genetics at CHOP.



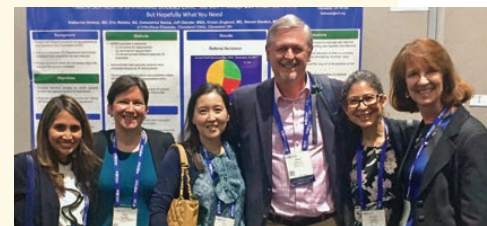
Rebecca Ganetzky, MD

She also recently published an article in *Academic Medicine* praising her educational experiences at the Lerner College of Medicine and crediting its innovative curriculum for her successful transition to becoming a physician-scientist.

## Dr. Rehm Named to IDSA Board

The Infectious Diseases Society of America (IDSA) has named **Susan J. Rehm, MD, FIDSA (IM'81, ID'83)**, Vice Chair, Department of Infectious Disease, to its Board of Directors. The IDSA represents physicians, scientists and other healthcare professionals who specialize in infectious diseases with the purpose of improving the health of individuals, communities, and society.

The announcement was made simultaneously with naming Paul Auwaerter, MD, MBA, FIDSA, as the Society's new president. Dr Auwaerter is the clinical director of the Division of Infectious Diseases at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine.



(Left to right): Karyna Neyra, MD (ID'18), Katherine Holman, MD (Infectious Disease Staff), Alice Kim, MD (IM/PD'01, ID'03), Steven Schmitt, MD (IM'91, ID'94), former member of the IDSA board of directors, Jennifer Cuellar-Rodriguez, MD (ID'08) and Susan Rehm, MD (IM'81, ID'83)

**Gene H. Barnett, MD, MBA (GS'81, NS'86)**, recently was elected Chair of the International Gamma Knife Research Foundation for a two-year term. The foundation comprises academic and clinical centers of excellence in which stereotactic radiosurgery is performed on the brain using the Leksell Gamma Knife. The foundation's primary goal is to facilitate retrospective and prospective clinical trials and outcomes analysis that evaluate the role of Gamma Knife radiosurgery in a wide spectrum of clinical indications.

**Margaret McKenzie, MD (CCF'95)**, President of South Pointe Hospital, recently was inducted into the Women of Color Foundation's 2017 Hall of Fame for her efforts to champion the work of others. The Women of Color Foundation was founded in 2005 to foster networking and provide personal and professional development, education and training to women and girls of all colors.



*Jonathan Myles, MD*

**Jonathan Myles, MD, FCAP (ACLPH'87)**, Anatomic Pathology, was elected to serve a three-year term on the Board of Governors of the College of American Pathologists.

**Andrea Sikin, MD (CCF'01)**, won the Midwest Society of General Internal Medicine leadership award and delivered a plenary presentation on professional development. The group's regional leadership award recognized Dr. Sikin for her departmental

leadership within the organization and her innovative and impactful work in coaching and mentoring.



*Sangeeta Kashyap, MD*

**Sangeeta Kashyap, MD (CCF'04)**, Endocrinology, Diabetes & Metabolism, along with Philip Schauer, MD, and John

Kirwan, PhD, received a NIDDK U01 award in the amount of \$10 million to lead a first-of-its-kind, multicenter clinical trial that assesses long-term outcomes of bariatric/metabolic surgery compared with medical and lifestyle therapy for treating Type 2 diabetes.

**Samer Elbabaa, MD, FAANS, FACS (PD/NS'02)**, who completed his pediatric neurosurgery fellowship



*Samer Elbabaa, MD*

at Cleveland Clinic in 2002, was appointed Director of the Pediatric Neuroscience Center of Excellence and Medical Director of Pediatric Neurosurgery at Arnold Palmer Hospital for Children in Orlando, Florida. He also was appointed professor of neurosurgery at the University of Central Florida's College of Medicine. Prior to his move to Orlando, he served as the Reinert Endowed Chair of Pediatric Neurosurgery, associate professor of neurosurgery and Chief of Pediatric Neurosurgery at Saint Louis University School of Medicine.

**Seth Greenwald, D.Phil. (Oxon) (CCF'71)**, has received the International Society of Technology in Arthroplasty's (ISTA) Lifetime Achievement Award for his work as a scientist and educator who has made extraordinary contributions to the advancement of arthroplasty technology and the education of others. "You have had a profound impact on the quality of arthroplasty care worldwide," said S. David Stulberg, Managing Director of the organization. "Your career has embodied the principles ISTA seeks to further."



*Dr. Greenwald (at right) receives a Lifetime Achievement Award*

**Shaheen E. Lakhan, MD, PhD, MEd, MS, FAAN (N'14)**, recently was appointed by California Gov. Jerry Brown to the Health Professions Education Foundation Board of Trustees.



*Shaheen E. Lakhan, MD, PhD*

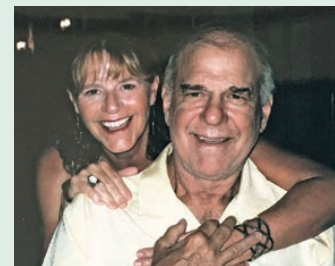
The state non-profit organization has issued more than \$150 million to health professional students in scholarships and loan-forgiveness programs since 1987. Dr. Lakhan is an Associate Professor and Chair of the Department of Neurology at the California University of Science and Medicine in San Bernardino, California.

**Deb Lonzer, MD, FAAP (PD'93)**, Vice Chair, Engagement, Cleveland Clinic Pediatric Institute, has returned to clinical care following a two-year hiatus. She sees some patients remotely and seeks to build a practice that addresses wellness issues involving children, in addition to seeing acute care patients. Meantime, she continues her leadership coaching, particularly for women physicians.



*Deb Lonzer, MD*

## Retirement



**Michael G. Hritz, MD (ORS'79)**, has retired after 40 years in medicine. He was in private practice for 37 years, most recently with Orthopaedic Associates in Westlake. Dr. Hritz is a graduate of the Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine in Cleveland, Ohio, and went on to serve his residency at Cleveland Clinic in orthopaedic surgery, finishing in 1979. He later completed an orthopaedic trauma fellowship at the University of Maryland. Dr. Hritz continues to be a part-time consultant to local nursing homes. He is shown with his wife, Karen, in the photo above.

# in memoriam



*William Monroe Michener, MD, with his wife, Roxanna*

Distinguished physician **William Monroe Michener, MD (CCF'61)**, died in September in Naples, Florida. He was a respected educator and doctor with service to the Cleveland Clinic for nearly 40 years. He also was a proud veteran and inspiring community volunteer.

Dr. Michener received numerous awards and published over 100 medical articles, mostly relating to gastroenterology in children and adolescents. The numerous honors bestowed on him throughout his lengthy career as a pediatric gastroenterologist, administrator and educator, include the Mayo Clinic's Distinguished Pediatric Alumnus Award. All are evidence of the high esteem in which he was held by his peers for his outstanding skills, hard work and drive toward excellence.

He led Cleveland Clinic's Division of Education from 1973 until 1991, earning praise from **Floyd D. Loop, MD (TS'68)**, then Chairman of the Board of Governors, who said, "Bill is a great and compassionate physician, an ardent educator and a congenial colleague. His many years of service have made this a better Cleveland Clinic."

Dr. Michener's career path took him from the eastern United States to the Southwest and back again. He was born in Springfield, Illinois, and educated at Dartmouth (BA, 1951), and Tufts (MD, 1955). He completed an internship at Walter Reed Hospital, and then had a three-year pediatric residency at the Mayo Clinic. After earning his MS in pediatrics and physiology from the University of Minnesota in 1961, he served on the staff of Cleveland Clinic from 1961 to 1968. Next, he accepted a post as assistant professor and Chair of the Department of Pediatrics at the University of New Mexico, where he rose through the ranks to become professor of pediatrics and Assistant Dean for Graduate Education. It was there that he developed his interest in graduate medical education, which led to his return to Cleveland Clinic in 1973, where he became Chairman of the Education Division. When he led the Education Division, Cleveland Clinic experienced an enormous expansion in all phases of its educational activities.

Dr. Michener's professional associations included 12 years of service on the American Board of Pediatrics, where he helped influence how pediatricians were trained throughout the United States.

In the fall of 1991, he eagerly accepted the post of Medical Director of Alumni Affairs for Cleveland Clinic's Alumni Association. He particularly enjoyed the opportunities to rekindle old friendships with those he trained.

Although he retired in 1996, he remained active through performing community service in his family's adopted home state of Florida.

"I really missed my contact with patients," he said. So, he got a license for a limited, unpaid practice under the supervision of the local county health department. He worked out of a health trailer in Marathon, Florida, a few miles from home, caring for impoverished patients. "Happy to do it," he said.

In 2006, along with his wife, Roxanna, he established the Dr. William and Roxanna Michener Award for the Development of Leadership, to honor a Cleveland Clinic caregiver demonstrating attributes of true leadership, as identified by his or her peers and teachers.

Roxanna H. Michener, Dr. Michener's wife of 62 years, died in May. Their survivors include daughter Sarah Michener Rayburn, son Peter Monroe Michener and their grandchildren.

**Muzaffar Ahmad, MD (PULMCC'73)**, retired professional staff from Pulmonary Medicine, passed away Sept. 25 at the age of 74.



*Muzaffar Ahmad, MD*

"Dr. Ahmad contributed greatly to Cleveland Clinic," says **Herb Wiedemann, MD (CCF'84)**,

Chair of the Respiratory Institute. "We will remember him most for the deep personal connections he made. He was a mentor, confidant and dear friend to so many."

After graduating from the Government Medical College, Kashmir University in India in 1965, Dr. Ahmad completed

an internship and served as house physician at S.M.H.S. Hospital in Srinagar. He came to the United States in 1967 to complete an internship at Barberton Citizens Hospital in Barberton, Ohio.

From 1968 to 1971, Dr. Ahmad was a resident in internal medicine at Queens Hospital Center in Jamaica, New York, and at Fairview General Hospital in Cleveland, where he served as Chief Resident in internal medicine from 1970 to 1971. Following a special fellowship in pulmonary disease from 1971 to 1973, Dr. Ahmad joined the staff of Cleveland Clinic's Department of Pulmonary Disease. He later served as Director of the Pulmonary Fellowship Program from 1979 to 1991.

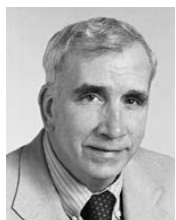
Dr. Ahmad also served as Chair of the Department of Pulmonary Medicine from 1983 to 1991, and as Chair of the Division of Medicine from 1991 to 2003. He also was a member of Cleveland Clinic's Board of Governors and the Board of Trustees, along with having leadership positions on numerous clinical and administrative committees and task forces.

He was a Fellow of the American College of Physicians and the American College of Chest Physicians and also held leadership positions in the American Thoracic Society and the Association of Pulmonary Program Directors, where he served on the board.

Dr. Ahmad is survived by his wife, Josie, three children and two grandchildren.

*Continued on page 23*

**Byron Coffman, MD (CCF'99)**, one of the founding members of Cleveland Clinic's Regional Oncology practice, passed away Aug. 23 after a two-year battle with cancer. He was 69. Dr. Coffman graduated with honors from



Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine in 1976 and completed

residency and fellowship training at University Hospitals of Cleveland. He was beloved by his fellow residents, fellows and nurses there and was offered a faculty position on completion of his training. Instead, he and his colleagues built a local private hematology/oncology practice. In 1999, they joined Cleveland Clinic. Colleagues will remember Dr. Coffman for his genuine kindness and clarity of vision. He was committed to his profession and cared deeply for his colleagues, patients and family.

**John Hines, MD (CCF'99)**, passed away in August. Dr. Hines was a graduate of Bowman Gray School of Medicine in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. He worked for 50 years in the Cleveland medical community with Metro Health, the Cleveland Clinic, Parma, and Southwest Hospitals and was a professor at Case Western Reserve School of Medicine. Survivors include his wife of 61 years, Donna, and son, David, as well as four



grandchildren and a great-grandchild.

**Edgar T. Gibson, MD (S'44)**, passed away recently. He was a graduate of Villanova University and Jefferson Medical School, after which he came to Cleveland Clinic for his surgical residency. He joined the U.S. Army in 1943, during World War II. He was serving in the closest MASH unit to Berlin when Germany surrendered and then stayed on in Germany for the following year. Upon his return, he began his medical practice in southern New Jersey.



*Edgar T. Gibson, MD*

Known for his small physical stature but large personality, Dr. Gibson enjoyed adventure, including sailing. In his retirement, he served as a crewman on two sailing trips across the Atlantic without navigational equipment. He traveled to many parts

## Memorial Giving

Giving to medical education at Cleveland Clinic in memory of a fellow alum is a meaningful way to express sympathy. Please be assured that your gift will help preserve the highest standards of education and training of future generations of physicians and scientists. For more information, please call Mindy Stroh, Director of Alumni Relations, at 216.444.2487.

of the world, always returning with videos to share. Never giving in to age, he joined several buddies in the Camden, Maine, toboggan race when he was 96 years old.

He is survived by his sister Alice Faries of Media, Pennsylvania, four daughters, two grandsons, one great-grandson and many nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his wife, Helen Tomlinson Gibson, three brothers and two sisters.

**Bruce Farrell Sorensen, MD (NS'66)**, was a neurosurgeon, patriarch to his family and a devoted member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. He passed away in September in Salt Lake City, Utah, at the age of 86.

Dr. Sorensen was an All-state center and linebacker for his South High School football team in Illinois, which propelled him into the University of Utah on an athletic scholarship. He became President of his chapter of Sigma Chi fraternity. After graduating

from the University of Utah, he married his sweetheart, Suzanne Burbidge, the next day – June 6, 1956. He then graduated from Temple University Medical School in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, where he was the class president and a member of the Babcock Surgical Society.

Dr. Sorensen completed his neurosurgical training at Cleveland Clinic and went on to practice neurosurgery in Salt Lake City for 30 years. He was President of the Congress of Neurological Surgeons and Chairman of the Ethics Committee of the American Association of Neurological Surgeons.

He is survived by his wife of 61 years, Suzanne Burbidge Sorensen, and a brother, Keith. He also is survived by his sons Dr. John B. Sorensen, Stephen B. Sorensen, Scott K. Sorensen and Evan B. Sorensen, and his daughter, Elizabeth Stringham, as well as 22 grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren.

## Please Keep in Contact

Clinic colleagues are interested in hearing your news. Please drop us a line at [ClevelandClinic.org/Alumni](http://ClevelandClinic.org/Alumni) or e-mail [alumni@ccf.org](mailto:alumni@ccf.org).



The Power of Every *One*.  
CENTENNIAL CAMPAIGN

Cleveland Clinic  
Alumni Relations, DV1  
9500 Euclid Avenue, Cleveland, OH 44195  
Address Service Requested

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Cleveland, Ohio  
Permit No. 4184



Lee M. Adler, DO (IM'75)

## DID YOU KNOW?

As distinguished alumni of Cleveland Clinic:

- 1 You are eligible to receive a discount on select CME courses and other career development opportunities.
- 2 We refer patients to you from all over the world. Ensure your profile is up-to-date online.
- 3 You can partner with Cleveland Clinic innovations to commercialize your intellectual property.

The Cleveland Clinic Alumni Association offers a wide range of services and benefits to members. By connecting with the Association, you can stay in touch with opportunities for professional growth. Learn more at [alumni.clevelandclinic.org/services-benefits](http://alumni.clevelandclinic.org/services-benefits)

## GOOD NUMBERS TO KNOW

### Alumni Office

216.444.2487

800.444.3664

(24/7 voice mail)

### Referring Physicians Hotline

855.Refer123

855.733.3712

### Global Patient Services

National (out of state)

216.445.5580

International

001.216.444.8184

### Critical Care Transport Worldwide

866.442.5092

Volume XXVII, No. 3 | Fall 2017

**Alumni Connection** is a publication of the Cleveland Clinic Alumni Association, produced in conjunction with Development Communications, for medical alumni and friends by the Philanthropy Institute.

e-mail [alumni@ccf.org](mailto:alumni@ccf.org) | website: [clevelandclinic.org/alumni](http://clevelandclinic.org/alumni)

Cleveland Clinic, founded in 1921, integrates clinical and hospital care with research and education in a private, nonprofit group practice. Cleveland Clinic depends on the generosity of individuals, families, corporations and foundations to ensure its continued excellence in patient care, medical research and education.

Cleveland Clinic realizes that individuals would like to learn more about its particular programs, services or developments. At the same time, we fully respect their privacy. If you do not wish to receive any materials containing this information, please contact us.

### CCF Alumni Association Board of Directors

Tom Abelson, MD  
Michael Banbury, MD  
Christine Booth, MD  
Rebecca Bagley, MD  
Kevin El-Hayek, MD  
Peter Evans, MD  
Kaushik Ghosal, PhD  
Bradley Gill, MD  
Jeffrey Goshe, MD  
Mark Grove, MD  
Alexis Grucela, MD  
Andrew Healy, MD  
Darlene Holden, MD  
Octavian Ioachimescu, MD, PhD  
Jonathan Kaplan, MD

Alice Kim, MD  
Leonard Krajewski, MD  
Albrecht Kramer, MD  
Richard Lang MD, MPH  
Mark Licht, MD  
Asma Moheet, MD  
Joddi Neff-Massullo, MD  
Lydia Parker, MD  
Mauricio Perilla, MD  
Marc Pohl, MD  
Leo Pozuelo, MD  
Michael Puff, MD  
Kadakkal Radhakrishnan, MD  
Susan Rehm, MD  
Rochelle Rosian, MD

Dale Shepard, MD, PhD  
Conrad Simpendorfer, MD  
Mario Skugor, MD  
Khalidoun Tarakji, MD, MPH  
Andrew Vassil, MD

**Committee Members**  
Leonard Calabrese, DO,  
History Project Director  
Gary Dworkin, MD,  
Philanthropy Committee Chair  
Khalidoun Tarakji, MD, MPH,  
Alumni Network Project Director

**Conrad H. Simpendorfer, MD** President  
**Dale R. Shepard, MD, PhD** Vice President  
**Pauline C. Kwok, MD** Secretary of Alumni Membership  
**Divya Singh-Behl, MD** Secretary of Alumni Communications  
**Susan J. Rehm, MD** Immediate Past-President

**Melinda Stroh** Director  
**Tara Fenner** Assistant Director  
**Katie Eurich** Development Associate  
**Jim Marino** Editor, *Alumni Connection*

