



**Sheldon H. Barnes, MD '56**, of Melbourne, FL, and his wife, Lucille.



**Robert M. Goldberg, MD '75**, with his daughter, Jackie Goldberg, a member of the Upstate Medical University Class of 2010, at her White Coat Ceremony.

### December 1943

**Joseph R. Boyle**, of Dublin, OH, has a son who is board certified in internal medicine; two grandchildren who are MDs, and another in third year of medical school.

### 1951

**Jack M. Levene**, of Lake Worth, FL, writes he is "retired or tired." Dr. Levene volunteers for Hospice in Palm Beach County, where his son, Richard, is medical director. His son, Stuart, lives in Puerto Rico running several casinos and his daughter, Lisa, lives in Richmond, VA.

### 1956

**Sheldon H. Barnes**, of Melbourne, FL, and his wife, Lucille, celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary. Dr. Barnes writes that he has been retired for 20 years and that Lucille and he are both doing well, traveling, mostly on cruises.

### 1960

**Robert K. Freebern**, of Arlington, VT, writes that his good friend and classmate, **Burnett Q. Pixley, MD '60**, is sadly missed as he died in an auto accident in the summer of 2002. Dr. Freebern says he had an enjoyable visit from Dr. Pixley just a week before his death when he shared plans for retirement in Arizona.

**Donald L. Nathanson**, of Wynnewood, PA, was honored as the 2007 recipient of the Life Achievement Award of the Philadelphia Psychiatric Association and the Pennsylvania Medical Society at a formal ball in November. Dr. Nathanson was honored for a career of significant contributions to patient care, research, and teaching.

### 1964

**Edward Burak**, of Englewood Cliffs, NJ, says his son, **Jarett S. Burak, MD '02**, is board certified in radiology and will complete his fellowship in MSK radiology at the Hospital for Special Surgery in New York City in June.

### 1967

**Melvyn "Yogi" Bert**, of Mill Valley, CA, reports that son **Ben Bert '08**, will be doing his residency at the New York Eye and Ear Infirmary.

**Paul LoGerfo**, who passed away in 2003, will forever be remembered for pioneering the field of thyroid and parathyroid surgery. In dedication of Dr. LoGerfo's legacy, the American Association of Endocrine Surgeons is soliciting donations to the Paul LoGerfo Educational Research Fund to support education and research in the field of Endocrine Surgery. (Forward donations to: The Paul LoGerfo Educational Research Fund, c/o Sally E. Carty, MD FACS AAES Secretary-Treasurer, 497 Scaife Hall, Department of Surgery, University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine, 3550 Terrace Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15261)

### 1968

**Kenneth** and **Cathy Falvo**, of Hastings on the Hudson, NY, are both semi-retired. They say it is time to pursue health and other projects.

### 1972

**Richard M. Byrne**, of Auburn, NY, has joined the Auburn Orthopedic Specialists on a part-time basis. Dr. Byrne, an orthopedic surgeon, joins **Kathi Teixeira, MD '88**, in this practice.

**Brian Gaffney**, of New Hartford, NY, was one of five Clinton Central School graduates selected for the 2007 Hall of Distinction. The inductees were honored with the unveiling of a plaque in the second floor lobby of the auditorium. Dr. Gaffney was president of the National Honor Society, president of the Student Council, and was voted as Most Outstanding Boy in the class of 1964. He is a cardiologist at St. Elizabeth's Medical Center, and was one of the doctors who attended to President Reagan when he was shot.

### 1974

**Stephen P. Heyse**, of Silver Springs, MD, is consulting at NIAID on clinical studies for smallpox and anthrax vaccines development. Dr. Heyse says he and Chris celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary in August 2007 and are expecting their sixth grandchild in May.

## Thomas Trueheart, MD '83

### Teaching as well as Treating

There are more than 20 million people in the United States diagnosed with bronchial asthma—seven million of those children—and African American communities are disproportionately affected.

As the only African-American allergist in the Detroit area, Thomas Trueheart, MD '83, is on a mission to educate his patients and the community at large.

“There are all kinds of theories as to why the African American communities are hit so hard, but I believe non-compliance and a lack of medical understanding are the biggest issues,” says Dr. Trueheart, whose office motto is “Not only do we treat, we teach.”

“There are a lot of people who just don't take their medications and/or who don't know how to use their medications properly,” says Trueheart, who takes a team approach, working closely with the patient, patient's family, and the referring primary care physician.

“If I can teach patients about their disease and can get them to understand why we do what we do, and what it is we are trying to achieve, that puts everyone on the same page and a step ahead of the game,” he says.

Trueheart is a board certified pediatrician as well as allergist. It was during his pediatric residency at the Children's Hospital of Detroit that he developed an interest in treating allergies and asthma, so he followed up with a fellowship in allergy and immunology at the Detroit Medical Center.

Although always interested in having his own practice, Trueheart says he was reluctant to take on the responsibility of being an employer and having to deal directly with insurance companies. “It never seemed to be the right time,” he says.



Then in 1999, Trueheart was diagnosed with throat cancer, requiring surgery, radiation, and nine months of chemotherapy. During a visit with his ENT, the doctor asked Trueheart what his plans were once he got better. When the doctor showed him the empty office suite next door, he knew the time was right.

That was four years ago and the beginning of TrueCare Allergy and Asthma Center.

Today, Trueheart boasts a patient population that is 90 percent African American, developed through referral, advertising, and active community involvement. He is active in his church and is a 33rd Degree Prince Hall Mason, is a black-belt in Isshinryu karate, a physician speaker for Pfizer, and served as a physician spokesperson for the American Lung Association's Faces of Influenza campaign. He's also been featured in *Who's Who in Black Detroit*.



**Thomas Trueheart, MD '83**, is the only African-American allergist in the metro-Detroit area.

In addition to his growing practice, Trueheart established the non-profit Detroit Asthma and Allergy Diseases, Inc. (DAAD), funded through a grant from Genentech.

“It's a patient advocacy organization that allows me to have direct interaction with the public to explain and teach about the allergy and asthma educational programs we sponsor,” he says. “Through appropriate education and management, one can overcome unnecessary fears and needless sports and life restrictions.”

—Renée Gearhart Levy



Dr. Peteris Apinis, president of the Latvian Medical Association, left, presents the award from the Latvian Ministry of Health to **Erik A. Niedritis, MD '84**.



**Brian P. Wicks, MD '84**



**Susan Dinges Burak '88** with her daughter.



**Jean C. Fox, MD '94**, and **Henry Schiller, MD, HS '95**, with their two boys, Allan and Harry.

**1980**

**Paul E. Menge**, of Albany, NY, was named regional medical director of Senior Whole Health of NY. Dr. Menge will be responsible for conducting reviews of clinical cases and overseeing benefit determinations. He will also participate in outreach and educational activities for the medical provider community in the plan's New York coverage area.

**Alexander E. Weingarten**, of Hollis, NY, continues to practice anesthesiology and pain management in New Hyde Park and Syosset, NY. Dr. Weingarten was recently invited to join the teaching staff at Nassau County University Hospital to train residents in pain management and anesthesiology. When not working, Dr. Weingarten spends quality time with his wife, Meryl and two sets of twins.

**1981**

**Patsy Iannolo**, of Syracuse, NY, held an Ask the Doctor Forum at Oswego Hospital where she discussed: Chest Pain at Home: The Do's, Don'ts and What If's.

**1984**

**Erik A. Niedritis**, of Rockville Centre, NY, was presented with an award from the Latvian Ministry of Health at the 60th Anniversary of the Latvian American Doctors and Dentists Association in July 2007 in Indianapolis. The award was in thanks for his support of Latvian medical students through a scholarship fund he organized.

**Brian P. Wicks**, of Silverdale, WA, was elected president of the Washington State Medical Association (WSMA) at the association's annual meeting in Tacoma in October. Dr. Wicks is a board certified orthopedic surgeon at the Doctors Clinic Orthopedic and Sports Medicine Center in Silverdale, WA. He also serves as the multi-specialty group's president. In addition to his involvement at the WSMA, Wicks is also an active member of the American Academy of Orthopedic Surgeons and the Kitsap County Medical Society.

**1988**

**Susan Dinges Burak** writes that after three amazing years abroad in Sydney, Australia, and Zurich, Switzerland, she, her husband, Bill, and two children, Ryan and Ali, have returned to the United States and now live in Austin, TX. Dr. Dinges Burak works for Nighthawk Radiology Services, which allows her to read from anywhere in the world—the job of a lifetime!

**Teresa J. Karcnik-Mahoney**, of Hurley, NY, has two daughters, Mary, who is in fifth grade and Catherine, in eighth grade.

**1989**

**G. Nicholas Verne**, of Columbus, OH, has been appointed director of the Division of Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition in the Department of Internal Medicine at Ohio State University Medical Center. A specialist in irritable bowel syndrome, Dr. Verne, is known for both his research and clinical expertise.

**1994**

**Jean C. Fox**, of Rochester, MN, shares that her husband, **Henry Schiller, MD, HS '95**, returned home safely in July after completing a tour of duty in Afghanistan, where he did trauma surgery as part of a forward surgical team. Dr. Fox, Dr. Schiller, and their two boys, Allan and Harry, are thrilled to be together again. All are well.

**1998**

**Stratton G. Danes**, of Cooperstown, NY, has joined the Bassett Healthcare's Division of Vascular Surgery and will provide clinical surgical care to patients in Cooperstown and at Little Falls Specialty Services in Little Falls Hospital. Dr. Danes is board certified in vascular and general surgery.

**Marc Levin**, of New York, NY, will be taking a leave from his current job as faculty at the Beth Israel Residency in urban family practice and Albert Einstein College of Medicine to work with the Nobel Prize winning organization, Doctors Without Borders/Médecins Sans Frontières. Dr. Levin has accepted the position

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**Eric Seybold, MD '92, HS '98****Strengthening Spines**

**W**hen Eric Seybold, MD '92, HS '98, stabilizes the spine of an elderly patient, he does something few other spine surgeons can claim: he uses a pedicle screw of his own design.

Like any orthopedist specializing in spinal surgery, Dr. Seybold was challenged by the limitations imposed by the weak bones in elderly or arthritic patients. "Many patients who are elderly or have osteoporosis need spine surgery requiring some sort of stabilization but we were often reluctant to do that because their bone quality was too porous to serve as an anchor point for the screw," he says.

Seven years ago, Seybold began experimenting with various bone strengthening agents similar to what a dentist would use to bond teeth, and began modifying pedicle screws at a local machine shop. In September, his patented design was launched to the medical marketplace by Theken Spine.

Seybold's patented design is a fenestrated screw with side bores in the distal screw threads that are perpendicular to the axis of the screw. The side bores allow for the option of injecting radio-opaque dye at the screw tip to determine if the pedicle wall was violated. The surgeon can visualize the screw tip on fluoroscopy. As the screw is inserted, the surgeon can re-direct if needed prior to inserting the screw fully into the pedicle. Then the surgeon can inject the bone glue directly into the screw which fills and strengthens the osteoporotic bone.

"It allows the surgeon to put the screw into very weak bone to stabilize the

spine whereas before we just couldn't," he explains. "This allows us to increase the strength and the holding power of the screw, which helps diminish the risk of failure of the implant."

Bringing a product to the medical market is an involved process and was assisted by a cadaver study conducted at Upstate Medical University by **Mark Wilson, MD '99, HS '04**, who conducted the study as part of his residency thesis. After the results were published, it took two more years to complete the necessary biomechanical testing and get the screw FDA approved.

Seybold completed his spine fellowship at Upstate under **Drs. Hansen A. Yuan, HS '74, and Bruce Fredrickson '72, HS '77**, before beginning his professional practice in Binghamton and is co-founder of the New York Spine Society. He is also founder of Binghamton's Pennsylvania Avenue Squash Club. A member of the varsity squash team as an undergraduate at Hamilton College, Seybold and his partners built one of the few regulation squash courts in Upstate New York as part of their medical building, which is open to friends, family and the community.

An avid water-skier, Seybold has also built a slalom course at the south end of Skaneateles Lake, where he can be found most weekends during the summer months.

Clearly, Seybold follows all his passions at full throttle. He has learned from this experience that "Every idea conceived by necessity is worth pursuing," he says.



**Eric Seybold, MD '92, HS '98**, designed a pedicle screw for spinal surgery, now on the medical market.



**Heather Mackey-Fowler, MD '03**, and her son Kieran Patrick.



**Marissa (Morris) Mincolla '08**, and **Michael Mincolla '08**.

**Mosca is keynote speaker for 23rd annual Elizabeth Blackwell Day.**

In recognition of Women's Heart Health Month and commemoration of Elizabeth Blackwell Day, **Lori Mosca, MD '84, MPH, PhD**, visited Upstate to give the 23rd annual keynote presentation in honor of America's first woman physician. Dr. Mosca, a preventive cardiologist at New York Presbyterian Hospital, presented a talk entitled "Always Consider the Alternative Hypothesis: Lessons Learned from a Physician Scientist." Mosca is founder and director of the Columbia Center for Heart Disease Prevention, a recipient of the Upstate Medical University Outstanding Young Alumni Award, and the 2007 American Medical Women's Association Women in Science Award.

of lead physician at a refugee camp in Chad in central Africa, where the largest relief mission in the world is currently occurring. Due to the spreading of the Darfur genocide into neighboring countries, close to 500,000 people have been displaced due to conflict in the region. Dr. Levin will be providing health care at a camp sheltering thousands of refugees. Dr. Levin will be the only expatriate physician to work at this site and his role will be to provide and organize primary health care services, including inpatient, outpatient, adult, pediatric and maternity care services. Levin will also oversee local healthcare providers working at the camp. He will be on assignment from December 2007 until June 2008.

**2001**

**Huntley Alper**, of Syosset, NY, has been appointed to Port Jefferson's Mather Hospital on its Imaging Services team. Dr. Alper specializes in interventional and diagnostic radiology and is American Board of Radiology certified. Dr. Alper's published research covers topics including CT angiography of renal artery anatomy.

**2003**

**Heather Mackey-Fowler**, of Grafton, MA, has had a very rewarding year. In June 2007, her family moved into a new home. In July, they welcomed their first child, Kieran Patrick. Dr. Mackey-Fowler has returned to work as an assistant professor in the UMASS Family Residency Program, where she also teaches UMASS medical students. Her husband, Jim Fowler, who worked regularly with the Binghamton Clinical Campus students in his position as residency recruiter for the Wilson programs, recently started as the director of admissions at Quinsigamond Community College in Worcester. Dr. Mackey-Fowler writes they were both very excited to see the changes in the medical school when they came to visit last winter.

**2008**

**Michael** and **Marissa Mincolla**, both in the class of 2008, were married on July 4, 2007 at Belhurst Castle in Geneva, NY.

