



### Welcome, Dr. Ann Botash!



The Department of Pediatrics is excited to warmly welcome our new Interim Chair, Dr. Ann Botash. Dr. Botash joined the Upstate faculty in 1990 after completing medical school, residency, and a year of general pediatric fellowship training here at Upstate. She has served as Professor and Vice Chair for Educational Affairs in the Department of Pediatrics since 2005. She was also one of the first pediatricians to be certified in child abuse pediatrics in 2009. She has worn many different hats over the years including being the pediatric clerkship director and being co-director of the pediatric residency program (along with Dr. John Andrade). She is currently the medical director of the McMahon Ryan Child Advocacy Center, director of Upstate's Child Abuse Referral and Evaluation program and is the director of the new child abuse pediatric fellowship. At Upstate, she is an inaugural member of the Academy of Upstate Educators and is the College of Medicine (COM) interprofessional education team leader. She is principal investigator on two current multi-year collaborative department of health projects: one for the Child Abuse Medical Provider Program (CHAMP) and one for rural health education, Doctors Across New York Ambulatory Care Training Program (DANY). Dr. Botash was recently honored with the State University's highest academic rank, Distinguished Teaching Professor, conferred by the State University Board of Trustees in 2017. She will continue in her role as senior associate dean for faculty affairs and development while also serving as interim chair of pediatrics. We are very excited to have her at the helm and, again, warmly welcome Dr. Botash in her new role as Interim Chair.

### New Faculty – Welcome Drs. Zaman and Prendergast

We are excited to introduce our new cardiologist and our new hospitalist who happen to be married to each other. Chris

Prendergast, MD, is a pediatric cardiologist from Vanderbilt. Nusrat (Nus) Zaman, M.D. divides her time between hospitalist, palliative care, and being a mom. Dr. Zaman accepted the Crier challenge on behalf of the family and shared the following:

“Hi everyone! Chris and I are both very excited to be joining the Upstate family. Patty asked us to write a little bit ourselves so here goes!

After meeting in med school at Brown, matching to Jefferson and then working/doing fellowship at Vanderbilt, we are happy and relieved to be putting down roots here in Syracuse. Along the way, we had our eldest daughter, Ara, during residency and our youngest, Mila, was born last July. When we're not at work, we're usually spending time with the girls, eating/cooking food or watching something on Netflix- if the girls are both asleep!! In addition to our combined knowledge in hospital medicine and pediatric cardiology, our current true forte is that in Disney princesses, Wild Kratts and Pinkalicious!!

Looking forward to working with you all!!  
Cheers,  
Nus and Chris”



### Welcome, J.P. Ervoes,

We are also excited to welcome and introduce our new hospitalist, Dr. John P. Ervoes to you! J.P. shared his rather boring and uneventful bio in this exclusive interview with the Crier.

“I was born and raised in Yonkers, NY, which I affectionately called the “7th Ring of Hell” (and which NYC folks called Upstate NY) but I have learned to appreciate it more as I have gotten older. I went to college initially at SUNY Albany but transferred to NYU in my second year as I missed the NYC

area and wanted to be closer to friends and family.

During the summer before my senior year of college, I spent 6 weeks in the Southeastern Amazon in indigenous territory where I: slept on a hammock (covered by a mosquito net), lived in a big hut that was built just for us, researched the attitudes towards death and dying of the Kayapo in Gorotire (the indigenous group), ate fried beetle larvae (tasted like popcorn), helped save my hut from crash and burn agriculture by pouring water all the way around it, almost fell to my death from a mountain, and thus ignited my interest in traveling. I have since traveled to Costa Rica (where I went whitewater rafting for the first time), Belize (where I went fishing for the first time and caught a barracuda on my first try), Hawaii, Puerto Rico, Portugal, Spain, Italy, and France. I am looking forward to a birthday trip to Vietnam and Cambodia with friends in May 2019.



Caption: I am the one in the second row from the front towards the rock wall. This is my first whitewater rafting trip ever on the Pacuare River in Costa Rica

I also enjoy tennis, racquetball, music of all genres, dancing like nobody's watching, hiking and exploring the outdoors, and I would like to learn how to ski (but after I finally get my first driver's license).

I went to the University of Pittsburgh School Of Medicine for medical school and Northwestern University in Chicago for my pediatric residency training. Thereafter, I went on a journey that would lead me to my life's true passion: Pediatric Hospitalist Medicine. I completed the first year of a Pediatric Pulmonary fellowship at Boston Children's before I decided I missed

seeing the breadth of pediatrics and wanted to pursue hospitalist medicine. I have worked in various venues since then including as a pediatric nocturnalist at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, a staff pediatrician at Kaiser in Portland, OR, and a pediatric hospitalist at Albany Medical Center and most recently at NYU. I decided on Syracuse because I felt like it was a great fit for me professionally and, although I enjoyed NYC immensely, I wanted a place where I could put down roots and eventually raise a family.”



Caption: Braving the cold and snow with one of my best friends in NYC.

**In the LEAD**



Congratulations to our very own Beth Nelsen who recently found out she has been selected for the APPD LEAD program as described below:

"APPD Leadership in Educational Academic Development (APPD LEAD) is a nationally recognized program that provides a unique opportunity for pediatric academic leaders in medical education to engage and learn from seasoned program directors, pediatric educators, and other national leaders in pediatrics. The curriculum focuses on organizational leadership, competency-based curriculum development, faculty development, residency and fellowship program administration, scholarship and career development." This is a really big honor and we are all very proud of her!

**Welcome Joseph Paul!**

Our Child Psychologist, Anne Reagan, is a new mom! She shared the following with the Crier, “Thanks for checking in on us. Baby and I are doing great and making a smooth recovery. Yes please share these cute pictures with everyone.

Joseph Paul Karn born May 2, 2018, 8 pounds 8 ounces.”



Congratulations, Anne! He is beautiful!

**Welcome, Sara Fisher, RN, PNP**

The Dept of Pediatrics welcomes our new RN, Sara Fisher, to the inpatient service. The Crier was among the first to get an exclusive interview with Sara:

“My name is Sara Fisher and I am joining the Inpatient Pediatric team as the float Nurse Practitioner. The exact details of this are still to be determined...stay tuned. I graduated from Syracuse University in 2003 with a Bachelor's Degree in Nursing and began working here on the old 8P/K. While working, I completed my Master's Degree as a Pediatric Nurse Practitioner. I have most recently worked as the Pediatric Trauma Coordinator as well as the Nurse Trainer on 11E.

When I'm not here, I enjoy reading and spending time with my husband (Michael) and 8 yo daughter(Gabby). I look forward to starting this new chapter in my life and thank you all in advance for your assistance as I transition into this new role.”



**Excellence in Teaching**

Congratulations to our very own Danielle Daniels who has been selected as a recipient for the annual Humanism and Excellence in Teaching Award! This award recognizes residents who excel in humanistic skills, both at the bedside of the patient and with the learners under their supervision. Awardees are nominated by third year students. Only six awards were given this year. She will be honored at the Annual Student Clinician Ceremony, on June 20nd from 5:00 to 6:00 p.m. in the Weiskotten Auditorium. Again, Congratulations, Danielle!

**More Excellence in Teaching**

Last month we noted that our very own Anuja Khettry was the recipient of the hospital-wide GME Excellence in Teaching Award. She was selected from among over 600 residents and fellows, and was honored at a reception at the Crowne Plaza on May 30<sup>th</sup>. Congratulations again, Anuja!



Anuja pictured with two of her favorite Sara(h)s.

**The 2018 PL3 Retreat**

*As Reported by Meghan Jacobs*

The third years had our last retreat on May 11th, and we have a lot to celebrate! Since we are sadly parting ways, and are almost off to start all new adventures, we wanted to make it memorable. We decided to enjoy the best wines that Upstate NY has to offer, and went for a tour of the Seneca Lake Wine Trail. Of course, we did it in style on a party bus. We also celebrated our two Brides-to-Be, Megan Campbell and Danice Kuruvilla with some bachelorette fun. We ended the day with homemade, brick oven pizzas at the Campbell Household. Overall, we had a blast! It was a wonderful day for us to reflect on our time here at Upstate, and just spend time with the people who have made this experience great! Dr. Nelsen told us our only rule was not to do anything that would land us on Syracuse.com, so mission accomplished. Here is a preview of that day. We are looking forward to sharing more from that day, and a whole lot more of our memories with you at graduation. Hope to see you all there!





### Newlyweds

Congratulations to former resident (Class of 2015) and Chief Resident Vanessa Orrego who got married in March. She shared the following:

Marcus Thölin and I were so happy to have many family and friends join us, including various travelers from near and far. The wedding was Saturday, March 3rd, 2018 at Silvertip Resort in Canmore, Alberta. It was the winter wedding we were hoping for.

The Upstate Pediatric crew was well represented with Evelyne, Caitlin, Jeremy, Brian, Sarah Morse, Liz, and Brittney!

It was a great celebration and many guests made a week-long trip to explore the area! Marcus and I enjoyed ourselves on our mini-moon in Banff for a couple of days. We are planning to have a longer more adventurous honeymoon in New Zealand at the end of the year.

Unfortunately, we are still doing long distance, but that will soon end when he finishes his training in Vancouver and hopefully can do locums here in Medicine Hat. Then we will have to see where we can move to and start this new step in our lives together.



Congratulations, Vanessa! We are so happy for the both of you!

### More Newlyweds

And finally, congratulations to former resident Dany Curi (Class of 2012) who was married in Lebanon last month. Dany was apparently too excited to send any details, but he did send lots of pictures. Congratulations Dany. We are so happy for you and wish you and your wife the very best.



### JUNE BIRTHDAYS

6/3 Emy Abraham  
 6/11 Joan Pellegrino  
 6/16 Sarah Ellis  
 6/21 Scott Schurman, Joe Nimeh  
 6/22 Whitney Vedella  
 6/23 Neal Seidberg  
 6/24 Prateek Wali  
 6/25 Sarah Baluta  
 6/29 Tracy Gilgallon  
 6/30 Bill Hannan