



The Perfect Match!

We are very pleased to announce that the residency program filled all of our spots again this year in the match. We are delighted to introduce the Pediatric Intern Class of 2025.

- Joud Abdulkarim – Univ of Aleppo
- Ayomide Ademola-Adesina – Univ Debrecen
- Folake Afolayan-Lawal – Univ of Ilorin
- Mohamed Ali – Univ of El Imam, Kosti
- Nabiha Ali – Aga Khan Univ
- Anandita Bharti – Govt Med Chandigarh
- Deniz Elbizim – Bahçeşehir Univ, Turkey
- Awunli Enebeli – Windsor Univ
- Fayza Fayyad – Batterjee Med Coll
- Jasleen Jhandi – Sri Guru Ram Das Instit
- Sameeta Kumari – Aga Khan Univ
- Mazin Sabeh – Amer Univ of Beirut
- Christine Saber – Amer Univ Beirut
- Temitope Tayo – Saba Univ
- Arshdeep Thind – N.C. Medical Coll



New Faculty at UPAC in July

The Division of Outpatient Pediatrics signed on two new superstars who will be faculty starting in July. Congratulations to Chief Sarah Sloan, and PL3 Ghina Fakhri who will both be joining the UPAC faculty in July. In addition to general peds, Ghina will also have a part time role in the Peds GI office helping with general Peds GI complaints. We are excited to have recruited such outstanding and extremely well trained individuals to join the growing team of residents who have decided to stay local.



Distinguished Service!



Congratulations to our very own Dr. Alicia Pekarsky, who was selected to receive the Catherine Senska-Haas Award for Distinguished Service to Abused Children, to be

presented at the McMahon Ryan Child Advocacy Center 15th Annual Pinwheel Ball on April 4th at the OnCenter. This award honors the lifetime commitment of individuals who have demonstrated exemplary qualities in the care, treatment and/or investigation of child abuse.

Zero!

We received the best possible news from the ACGME in March. We will let Dr. Conners be reporter-in-chief on this one:

Dear Colleagues:

I am happy to report some excellent news. Our most recent letters from the ACGME note NO citations for our Pediatrics residency nor for any of our fellowship programs. What a long way we have come in the last few years! This reflects the hard work of our of program leadership and staff, our faculty, and of the residents and fellows themselves, as well as collaboration from our nursing and other children’s hospital colleagues Thanks and congratulations to all of you!

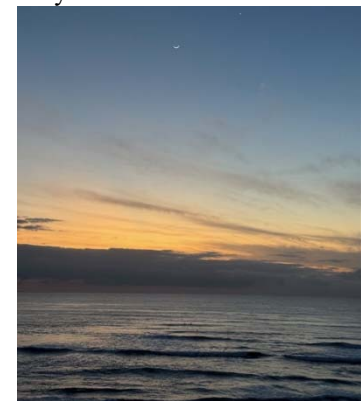
Dr. Greg Conners

AMSPDC 2025



As previously reported, Drs. Ali Ba Sahel and Ahmed Souid were both nominated to attend the 2025 AMSPDC Frontiers in Science (FIS) Symposium in San Diego as guests of Dr. Conners. We now have proof that they actually all made it!

In an exclusive interview with the Crier, Ali shared, “We enjoyed the conference and the trip a lot. I didn’t have a clear idea about what the conference would be about, but it was above what I expected! The topics were very interesting and inspiring. Many intelligent people were talking about the latest discoveries in their research fields. We also had the chance to connect with residents, fellows and mentors from all over the countries and share our interests and goals with them. California was amazing and watching the Sunset over the ocean was truly beautiful.”



APPD 2025

The Annual Association of Pediatric Program Directors had their annual conference in Atlanta. We were excited to be able to send all four PDs, next year’s chiefs, Aubrey, and the team’s favorite mom.



Woman-Owned Business of the Year

We were excited to learn that one of our former residents, Dr. Kate Robinson (Class of 2011), was the winner of the Woman Owned Business of the Year from the US Small Business Administration for the CNY region. She will be honored at an awards ceremony during the National Small Business Week in May. Dr. Robinson is the owner of Lyndon Pediatrics. She joined Lyndon Pediatrics in 2011 and became its sole owner in 2017.

In The News

Once again, Dr. Jana Shaw is interviewed on the news. This time by WRVO on precautions families should take during the recent measles outbreaks.

<https://www.wrvo.org/2025-03-05/doctors-urge-vaccination-amid-measles-outbreak>

On March 10th Dr. Steve Blatt was a guest on the Informed Patient podcast speaking on the Childhood Vaccination Schedule:

Immunization recommendations for kids involve a variety of health experts. You can hear it at:

<https://www.upstate.edu/informed/2025/030625-blatt-podcast.php>

April 9th Double Research Day

We have not just one, but two big research events on Wednesday, April 9th. First, the Department will be hosting our Annual Research Poster/Platform for Pediatric Grand Rounds at 8:00 AM. Faculty, residents, and staff will all be sharing their projects both in poster format and presentations. In fact, you can already view the posters online AND cast your vote for the popular "People's Choice" Award:

<https://web.upstate.edu/pediatrics/education/grandrounds.php>

Then, on the same afternoon, you won't want to miss this year's Beyond the Doctorate Research from 1:00 - 5:30pm. As always, we will have several pediatric residents participating. In fact, our very own Ghina Fakhri was selected to do a platform presentation from among all of the residents, fellows, and other post-docs who submitted their work.

BEYOND THE DOCTORATE
RESEARCH DAY

Featuring the Research of Upstate Postdocs, Residents & Fellows

Keynote Speaker:
Mario Delmar, PhD
Patricia M. and Robert H. Martensen Professor of Cardiology, Department of Medicine Professor, Department of Cell Biology, NYU Grossman School of Medicine, New York, NY
Arrhythmogenic Cardiomyopathy: Molecular mechanisms and the promise of gene therapy.

Speakers:

 Hyder Ali Fellow Genetics	 Ghina Fakhri Resident Professor & Assistant Professor	 Souvik Ghosh Postdoc, Department of Ophthalmology & Visual Sciences	 Fiza Hashmi Postdoc, Biochemistry & Molecular Biology
 Kathleen Heslin Resident, Psychiatry & Behavioral Sciences	 Athar Hussain Resident Internal Medicine	 Emma Marillo Postdoc, Microbiology & Immunology	 Mahvoudreza Mooin Postdoc, Surgery, Transplant Services

Wednesday, April 9, 2025 • 1:00-6:00pm
Oral Presentations: NAB 4144 B/C, 1:00 - 4:00
Poster Session: NAB 4144 A, 4:00 - 6:00

UPSTATE For more information: <https://www.upstate.edu/bdr> UPSTATE

Be sure to come support one or both of these exciting events!

Chair-Elect of the Board!

Congratulations to our very own Priyanka



Kaul, MD, who was named Chair-Elect of the American Board of Pediatrics in January! That means she will be Chair in 2026. Priyanka tells the Crier,

"I have been involved with the ABP since 2018 with writing questions for and reviewing the general pediatrics Board exam. I was approached and interviewed for an opening on the board of directors (BOD) of the ABP in 2020. The Board has a nominating committee that reviews all potential candidates, and I was chosen to start on the BOD in 2021.

It has been an exciting time to be part of the ABP. I work alongside nationally recognized leaders in the field of assessment and certification to make certification in pediatrics both meaningful and holistic."

<https://www.abp.org/content/board-directors>

We are so proud of Dr. Kaul!

The AdironDoc

As some of you are aware, our former Chairman, Dr. Tom Welch, has not only continued to help out occasionally in Nephrology, but he continues to have an additional non-medical career in outdoor education. He shared his most recent publication (attached) and some potentially breaking news about a future endeavor:

"I thought you might enjoy this article just published in Adirondack Life. Although I am still writing papers for medical journals, my (limited) free time has enabled me to do a bit more non-medical writing. I am also working on an historical novel about the climb discussed in this paper." You can discover more about Dr. Welch's adventures at adirondoc.com.



APRIL BIRTHDAYS

4/1 Ahmed Souid
4/16 Chetana Pasam
4/16 Michael Kennedy-Yoon
4/18 Elena Wolner
4/19 Angela Wratney
4/20 Mide Ajagbe
4/24 Jenica O'Malley



Groundbreakers

BY THOMAS WELCH

PLACED BY THE ADIRONDACK MOUNTAIN CLUB and the New York State Conservation Department on the 1937 centenary of the first ascent, the bronze plaque on Marcy's summit names 15 in the first climbing party. Setting aside a few historical hiccups (the mountain was not "also known by the Indian name Tahawus" and a few of the named climbers were not part of the group), the sign recognizes a little-appreciated event in the history of science.

Many of the names are known to anyone familiar with Adirondack history: Henderson, Cheney, Holt, MacIntyre, for example. Most of the others are hardly household names, although two—Redfield and Emmons—are recognized as Adirondack 46s. But the party that set foot on Mount Marcy on August 5, 1837, may have been the most distinguished assemblage of American scientists in the 19th century—being on the first ascent of Mount Marcy is barely a footnote in many of their impressive careers.

GEOLOGIST

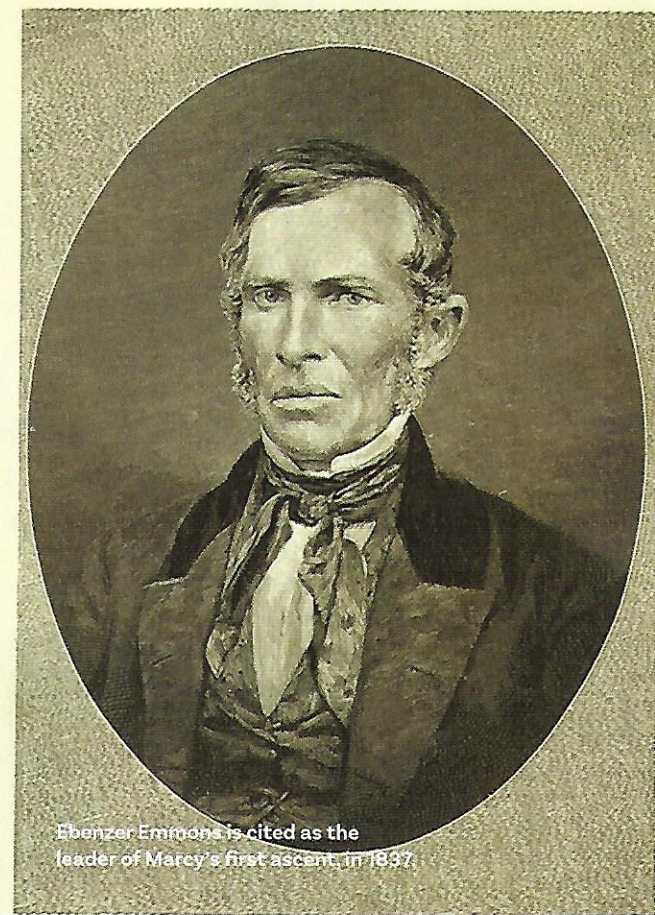
Ebenezer Emmons (1799–1863)

Emmons's name appears first on the plaque, often cited as the expedition leader. He is identified as "state geologist" from "Williams [College]." While this is accurate, it understates his background and career. He received his undergraduate degree from Williams College and an MD from Berkshire Medical College. He practiced medicine in Massachusetts, but also dabbled in geology, his first love. After a few years he resumed his education, joining the first class at the Rensselaer School (now RPI) to focus on geology. His most important mentor there was Professor Amos Eaton.

At the time of the Marcy ascent, Emmons was professor of chemistry and geology at Williams, and professor of obstetrics at Albany Medical

College. At the time he was also chief geologist of the northern district of New York, and his reports in this role discussed his scientific findings on the expedition. He is generally credited with being first to use the term "Adirondacks" to refer to our mountains.

Emmons's career as a geologist flourished after the 1837 expedition, and he made several major contributions to the field. All came to a sad ending, however. One of his students, James Hall, accompanied him on the Marcy ascent. Hall ultimately eclipsed his mentor in geologic fame, and the two of them descended into an ugly public dispute over the age of a rock group, the Taconic System. Ultimately, the dispute, dubbed the "Great Taconic Controversy," led to lawsuits and countersuits, and resulted in Emmons being barred from



Ebenezer Emmons is cited as the leader of Marcy's first ascent in 1837.

practicing geology in New York. He began another career phase as state geologist of North Carolina, where he died trapped in the state by the Civil War. His body was returned to New York, and is interred next to that of his student, nemesis and expedition colleague, James Hall.

METEOROLOGIST

William Redfield (1789–1857)


Clearly the most senior of the scientists on the expedition, Redfield authored the definitive scientific report of the climb in the *American Journal of Science and Arts*. He had no formal education after grammar school and was largely self-taught.

Redfield's reputation as a scientist had been established earlier with major discoveries about the nature of Atlantic storms and hurricanes. From a series of careful observations (such

as the pattern of tree fall), he deduced the counterclockwise rotation of hurricanes. He described the familiar path of Atlantic storms from the Caribbean up the coast to the northeast. Early 19th-century nautical guides credited his work with allowing sailors to predict storms and minimize their impact.

Much of Redfield's work involved barometers. He is credited with a number of barometric designs and modifications and popularized their use for the study of weather. His measurements during the expedition demonstrated for the first time that the Adirondacks were higher than the Catskills; Emmons later used the data to develop mathematical models for determining altitude. Their conclusions about the height of Mount Marcy hold today.


Red- | Continued on page 54



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GROUNDBREAKERS

Continued from page 42

field's fame grew following the Marcy expedition. He may be best known as the founder and first president of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, which publishes the journal *Science*.

BOTANIST

John Torrey

(1796-1873)

Torrey's education began, curiously, in what we would now call a "minimum security" prison in New York, where his father was warden. When John was a teenager, his father let him interact with some inmates. Among these was Amos Eaton (later Emmons's professor), who'd been charged with forgery in connection with a land dispute. Eaton was well versed in many of the sciences and tutored young Torrey in botany.

Torrey chose medicine for his formal education, although his real love was botany. He received his MD from the College of Physicians and Surgeons in New York, now a part of Columbia University. He held faculty positions at West Point, City College of New York, and Columbia. At the time of the Marcy climb, he was also professor of chemistry at the College of New Jersey (now Princeton University). No matter where he was or what he was doing, he continued to study plants, amassing what was to become an extensive collection of American flora. Parts of this collection remain today at the New York Botanical Garden and the herbarium of Columbia University.

The year before the Marcy expedition, Torrey was appointed botanist of the State of New York, and began work on a catalog of the state's flora. The climb was an opportunity for him to collect specimens of alpine and subalpine flora (before this became illegal). Six years after the climb, Torrey published his two-volume *Flora of the State of New York*, a compendium of all plants found in the state.

After 1837 his reputation as a botanist grew exponentially. He accompanied John C. Fremont on an expedition to the Pacific northwest, studying that region's flora extensively. He founded



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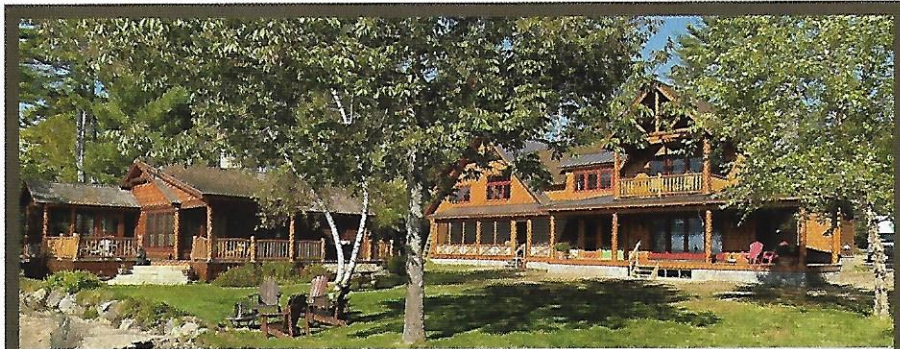


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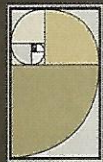
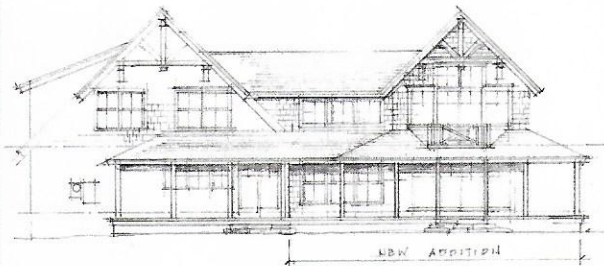
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GROUNDBREAKERS

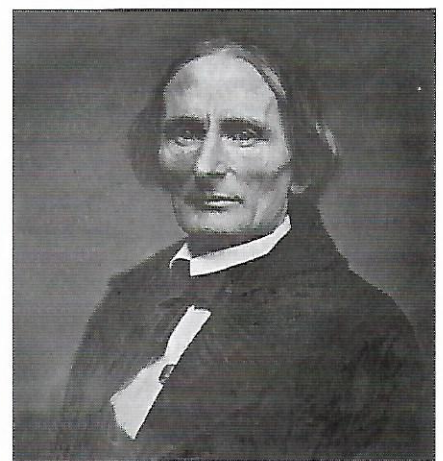
the New York Academy of Sciences and was elected as one of the early members of the National Academy of Sciences. He established the Torrey Botanical Society in New York City, which exists to this day. *The Journal of the Torrey Botanical Society* is a leading scientific botanical publication.

GEOLOGIST

James Hall
(1811-1898)

Hall, the other "geologist" memorialized on the plaque, was only 25 years old at the time of the expedition. He had graduated from Rensselaer, where he had been a student of both Emmons and Amos Eaton. He stayed on as a faculty member and collaborated with Emmons until the two had their famous falling out.

After his work on the Adirondack exploration, he became chief geologist of one of the other districts in New York. His work gradually moved into paleontology, and he is largely considered to have established paleontology as a field in the U.S. Hall's magnum opus was the 13-volume *Palaeontology of the State of New York*. Along with Torrey, he was a founder and early member of the National Academy of Sciences.



ARTIST

C. C. (Charles Cromwell) Ingham
(1797-1863)

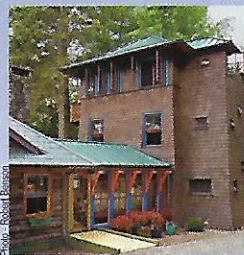
Ingham, shown above, was an artist, as fully accomplished in that field as the rest of the team was in natural science. He was renowned as a portrait painter



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GROUNDBREAKERS

in New York City, specializing in socially prominent young women. His work is included in the permanent collection of New York's Metropolitan Museum of Art and he was a founder of the National Academy of Design.

For a couple of reasons, Ingham was a peculiar choice for the expedition. First, he was not known for landscapes. More important, Ingham was not an outdoorsman. The rest of the explorers were not ivory tower academics. Their work regularly took them on extended treks into uncharted territory. Emmons, Torrey, and the others would have been entirely comfortable in the Adirondack wilderness. Not so for Ingham, who apparently was more comfortable in Manhattan salons than crossing the Opalescent. He reportedly had a great deal of difficulty on the final climb of Mount Marcy, fainting several times and spending much of the summit time resting, not sketching.

Some of Ingham's landscape sketches from the expedition were colorized, lithographed and published in Emmons's reports. They were also produced separately for purchase. He used at least one of them, a view of Indian Pass, to produce a larger oil landscape which is now at the Adirondack Experience, in Blue Mountain Lake.

ARTIST

Ebenezer Emmons, Jr.
(1822-1907)

Emmons's 15-year-old son accompanied his father on the expedition. As the youngest member, by far, he was also the only one to see the dawn of the 20th century. His obituary mentions the Marcy expedition as a turning point in the boy's life, setting him on a career path. He went on to become a nature artist of considerable repute, working at first with his father, providing illustrations of plants, insects and fossils for his father's scientific reports. He finished his career as a nature illustrator for the state. Many of Emmons Junior's natural history drawings were made into lithographs which are still on the market. Some of these images are spectacular and demand a good price.

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