

# BULLETIN



Vol. 61, No. 2

Bulletin of The Mahoning County Medical Society

February, 1991



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## BULLETIN

**Mahoning County Medical Society**

Volume 61 February 1991 No. 2

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### SOCIETY MEETINGS

January 15, 1991

March 16, 1991

May 21, 1991

September 17, 1991

November 19, 1991

December 17, 1991

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The opinions and conclusions expressed herein do not necessarily represent the views of the editorial staff nor the official views of the Mahoning County Medical Society. Advertisements do not imply sponsorship or endorsement by the Mahoning County Medical Society of products or services advertised.

The Bulletin reserves the right to edit all contributions for clarity and length, as well as to reject any material submitted, including advertisements.

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## You've Only Just Begun

The Mahoning County Medical Society is a diffuse organization. Its membership covers a variety of general and specialized physicians of both sexes, age groups from medical students to those with emeritus status, and those who live and work not only in this area but sometimes in diffuse areas of the country and the world. Each member has his (or her) own point of view and needs. In addition, the Society is also responsible for the public good. In the continual assessment of the needs and wants of the membership, a variety of new and different ideas are brought forth and acted upon.

At a recent meeting with the "New Physicians Group," it was made clear that nationally the AMA does respond to some of those needs but locally little has been done in the past. A feeling of alienation existed in which the Society was perceived as conservative and more as a political outlet for the established local physicians. While there may be some truth to this, I am proposing a whole variety of services to reach the physicians just starting practice.

Your Society will attempt to establish a

data bank of known trained medical office workers to help match the proper office personnel with mainly new physicians, but the service can be used by any member. In addition, there will be an attempt to show marked areas for primary and specialist physicians.

Speakers and committees will be commissioned to give courses, workshops, directions or just plain answer questions on the establishment of the business of medicine; the hiring of personnel; where to and how to purchase medical equipment; financing; insurance; billing systems; third party billings and payments; Medicare coding; business arrangements with PPO's, IPAs, HMDs, and private physician groups; or the buying of existing practices.

Last, but not least, I would like to allow more participation of the new physicians in the processes of the Society. The Society must be able to reach out to all its members. Your Society works for you and you are the Society. Forthcoming literature will explain these outlined services.

Any questions? Let me hear from You! □

### New MCMS President

Newly installed MCMS president, Dr. Brian Gordon is an internist who has been practicing medicine in the Youngstown area for over twelve years. Originally from Chicago, Dr. Gordon obtained a bachelor of science degree from the University of Wisconsin and his medical degree from Kasturba Medical College in Manipal, India.

After a one year housemanship in India, Dr. Gordon returned to the United States and began a two year pediatric internship and residency at the University of Illinois. He then completed an internship and residency in internal medicine at St. Elizabeth Hospital Medical Center.

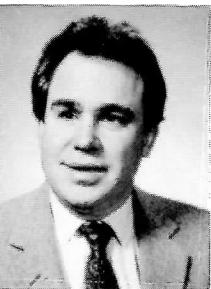
For more than a decade, Dr. Gordon has been an active staff member at St. Elizabeth. He serves on the By Laws Committee and is also a delegate to the Hospital Medical Staff Section of the AMA. Since 1979 he has been on the faculty at NEOUOM.

Dr. Gordon is medical director of the Youngstown and Mahoning County Health Departments, the Youngstown Police Department and he is the City Jail physician. Dr. Gordon was recently appointed acting health commissioner for Mahoning County due to the current health commissioner's military call-up. He also serves as a consultant to the Ohio and Pennsylvania Bureaus of Disability Determination and a consultant to the U.S. Department of Labor on black lung.

Dr. Gordon, a former editor of the *Bulletin*, serves as a delegate to the OSMA and recently was elected vice chairman of the Sixth District delegation to the OSMA. He is a member of the American Medical Association, the American Society of Internal Medicine, and the American Geriatrics Society.

Dr. Gordon is married to the former Jackie Prizant. The Gordons reside in Liberty with their three children.

*"In the continual assessment of the needs and wants of the membership, a variety of new and different ideas are brought forth and acted upon."*



Brian S. Gordon, M.D.

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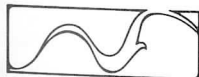
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## and Physicians In God $\wedge$ We Trust

Perhaps the most recognized symbol in the United States, the yellow ribbon now graces our cover. It manifests the support of The Mahoning County Medical Society for our men and women serving in Operation Desert Storm. While some Americans manifest unequivocal support, the support of others in our society has to be legislated. The Soldiers and Sailors Relief Act provides partial relief for the economic bloodbath faced by many in Desert Storm. One of the provisions of that act mandates reduction of interest rates to 6 percent. The response of financial institutions to that requirement has been quite educational.

We face many challenges in our lives and in our provision of medical care to the Mahoning Valley. The better portion of our lives is spent helping patients to make informed decisions, so they can actively participate in their health care. The philosophy, "If you [the patient] are not part of the solution, you're part of the problem," is perhaps focal to this practice approach. The changing economic climate seriously challenges the ability of our patients to afford medical care. Health care delivery is further compromised by the reimbursement policies of some third party carriers, who appear to have difficulty reconciling cost-containment with, and perhaps even understanding the concept of, quality assurance.

While quality care is appropriately demanded of physicians, mechanisms for delivery of that care are being compromised. The practicing physician appears to bear the major economic impact of cost-containment practices. Reimbursement levels are at times below the private practitioner's cost of actually delivering that care. While Medicare reim-

bursement usually covers expenses, across the board or "physician-targeted" governmental budget cuts at times make it "economically irresponsible" to provide care.

As health care providers, we often place the interests (well-being) of our patients above economic responsibility. However, we do have a major constraint. While we are, in effect, subsidizing our patient's health care, we can only do so if we remain economically solvent. As patients place their trust in us, we must place at least a portion of our economic solvency in the hands of banking institutions. The medical concept of informed consent appears to be somewhat different from informed consent in the banking industry, at least as pursued by some institutions. We must carefully examine financial institutions to determine those in which we may have confidence.

What institutions are deserving of our business and trust? Given the sacrifices that we as physicians make for our patients and the much greater sacrifices of those involved in Desert Storm, how would you respond to the following communication?

"In response to your recent inquiry, please be advised that we have complied with your request for relief under Soldiers and Sailors Relief Act as requested. The interest rate has been reduced to 6 percent per annum for 180 days according to your mobilization orders. Payments will remain the same..."

The bank involved declined to alter the monthly payments or the number of payments due, yet claimed to have reduced the interest rate to 6 percent. As neither the monthly payment nor the number of payments due were altered, I certainly do not comprehend the bank's claim that "the interest rate has been reduced." While some

*Continued on pg. 10*

*"The changing economic climate seriously challenges the ability of our patients to afford medical care."*



*Bruce M. Rothschild, M.D.*

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## TB Clinic Offers Free Services

**T**uberculosis is no longer the plague of former years. Today it is a curable, even preventable disease. While deaths from TB have declined dramatically, TB remains a communicable disease whose treatment requires the cooperation of physicians, patients and their families, and public health facilities.

The Mahoning County Tuberculosis Clinic is a tax-supported county agency that facilitates the diagnosis and treatment of TB in Mahoning County. The TB Clinic is located in the Mill Creek Community Center at 496 Glenwood Avenue in Youngstown. The TB clinic wants to make area physicians aware of the many free services the agency offers to TB patients and their families.

Physicians are often in the forefront in the fight against tuberculosis. Doctors recognize, diagnose, treat and report TB. The Mahoning County TB Clinic offers its assistance to assure that TB patients receive the best care that modern curative and preventive medicine can provide.

The TB Clinic offers free care, treatment and follow-up to all Mahoning County residents who are ill with TB, are suspected of having TB, or who have been exposed to active TB. The following services are provided free to TB patients: blood and urine testing, physical exams, sputum studies and medication.

In addition, the Mahoning County TB Clinic conducts free tuberculin skin testing and chest X-rays for patients, contacts and suspected cases of tuberculosis. The clinic may also provide transportation to patients unable to provide their own.

The TB Clinic and Control Program will pay the hospital charges for locally hospitalized patients being treated for TB who lack hospital insurance coverage. The TB Controller can also authorize payment for charges over and above insurance

coverage for up to ten days for the investigation of TB.

Due to the high cost often associated with treatment, the TB Clinic wants to make physicians and their patients aware of the free services and medications that the clinic provides. The TB Clinic also supplies forms that physicians must fill out when they are treating TB patients. The TB Clinic has provided the Mahoning County Medical Society with a form that can be duplicated, or physicians may contact the clinic by calling 744-4246. □

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## From the Desk of the Editor

*Continued from pg. 8*

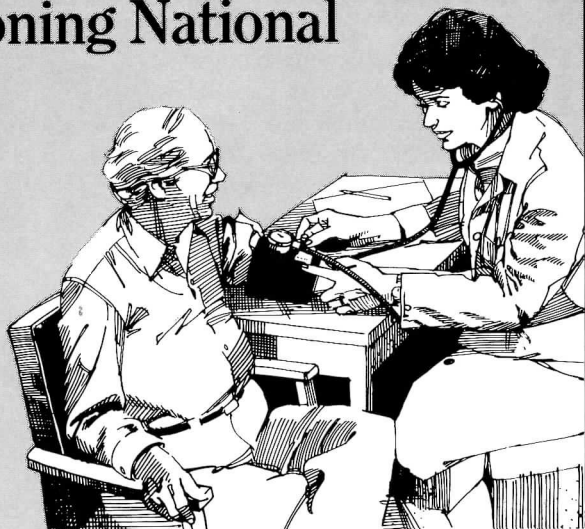
banking institutions have at least admitted (through so-far, ineffective legal challenge) their desire to avoid profit reduction (required by the Soldiers and Sailors Relief Act), the above communication seems to suggest one institution's attempt to avoid its fair share of the burden of Desert Storm. Is this an institution deserving of our trust and business? I personally find it an embarrassment that the Medical Society and the fine county we serve share their name with such an institution.

The yellow ribbon, once reminiscent of a John Wayne movie, now reminds us of the sacrifice made by many in our community. Let us ride in their support. □



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## Society Installs New Council

The Mahoning County Medical Society held its annual installation of Council on January 15, 1991, at the Youngstown Club. Dr. Brian Gordon was installed as president, and outgoing president Dr. James Lambert was honored for providing a year of inspiring leadership.

The membership observed a moment of silent prayer for those members who passed away in 1990: Drs. L. Fagnano, J. Fogarty, F. Kravec, F. Morrison, A. Rashid, L. Reed, J. Rogers, N. Salistean and D. Yoder.

Dr. Lambert recognized the contributions of the past presidents in attendance: Drs. R. Abdu; J. Anderson; G. Baumblatt; Y. Chiu, Jr.; J. Dallis; R. Jenkins; A. Detesco; R. Fisher; F. Resch; H. Wang; and K. Wieneke.

Dr. Lambert also acknowledged Mrs. Beth Bacani, a past president of the Auxiliary, and outgoing members of Council: Drs. J. Ervin, P. Lakhani, and M. Miladore.

Bound volumes of the 1990 *Bulletin* were presented to retiring editor Dr. Denise Bobovnyik, historian Dr. John Melnick and contributor Dr. Robert Fisher.

Past president Dr. Karl Wieneke installed the following members:

### *Officers:*

Dr. B. Gordon — President  
Dr. J. Butterworth — President-Elect  
Dr. K. Carter — Secretary  
Dr. D. Chung — Treasurer  
Dr. J. Lambert — Immediate Past President

### *Delegates:*

Dr. H. Wang  
Dr. L. Slusher  
Dr. J. Anderson  
Dr. K. Wieneke  
Dr. B. Gordon  
Dr. J. Lambert

### *Alternate Delegates:*

Dr. E. Angtuaco  
Dr. D. Bobovnyik  
Dr. J. Butterworth  
Dr. D. Dunch  
Dr. M. Guthikonda  
Dr. D. Handel

### *Council-at-Large:*

Dr. C. Amedia  
Dr. J. Babyak  
Dr. G. Baumblatt  
Dr. J. Guju  
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Dr. C. Molloy  
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### *Editor of Bulletin:*

Dr. B. Rothschild

Following the installation ceremony, Dr. Lambert presented with the engraved president's gavel made by Dr. James Anderson past sixth district councilor, to the new president, Dr. Brian Gordon, Dr. Gordon then acknowledged his predecessor's accomplishments and presented Dr. Lambert with the customary president's plaque and pin on behalf of the membership.

Mrs. Jeanine Lambert was presented with an Orrefors crystal desk clock in appreciation for her devoted volunteerism on behalf of the Society. Mrs. Lambert selects the *Bulletin's* cover art and writes the accompanying commentary. She also facilitated the framing of the Society's 1990 membership portrait.

After the presentations, Dr. Gordon introduced Mrs. Anita Gestosani, president of the Mahoning County Medical Society Auxiliary, who commented on the Auxiliary's activities.

In other business, the membership voted to accept for resident membership Drs. Thomas Dreher, Neal Frost and Cynthia Jackson. An application for resident membership was presented for Dr. Angel Guido Hita.

The members approved a motion to change the Society meeting date from Tuesday, March 19, to Saturday, March 16, 1991. March 16 is Doctor's Day, and the Auxiliary will hold a dinner dance meeting with the Society in honor of the occasion.

Pianist Paul Rossi provided the evening's musical entertainment. □

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## At A Glance...



*Dr. Brian Gordon and Dr. James Lambert.*



*(L to R) Dr. Brian Gordon, Dr. Jane Butterworth and Dr. Bruce Rothschild.*



*(L to R) Dr. James Anderson, Dr. James Lambert, Dr. Danny Chung, Dr. Jane Butterworth, Dr. Brian Gordon and Dr. Karl Wieneke.*

---

In Honor of Doctor's Day  
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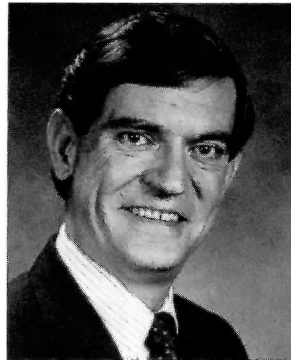
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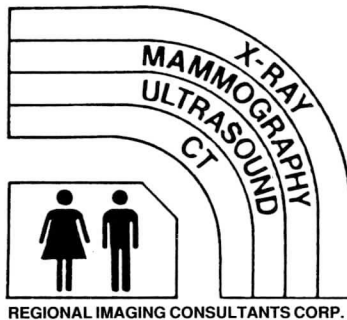
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• Lloyd E. Slusher, M.D. • Jon A. Molisky, D.O. • Albert M. Bleggi, M.D.  
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## **The Health Department Role In Infectious Waste Disposal**

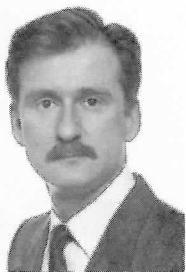
**I**n Mahoning County, the Mahoning County Health Department is responsible for enforcement of the infectious waste rules that I have discussed in my last two articles on the subject. When I asked Richard Setty, R.S., the department's solid waste program chief, to summarize our role in the program, he listed three basic functions: enforcement, information and education, and complaint and conflict resolution.

### **Enforcement**

One of the Health Department's primary duties is to see that all large quantity generators and transporters are registered with the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency. Department sanitarians will conduct compliance monitoring on the premises of all small and large quantity generators of infectious waste. While on the premises, they will scrutinize procedures used to handle, package and dispose of infectious waste to assure that all Ohio Administrative Code rule requirements are met. Equipment used by transporters will be inspected as well. Mr. Setty and his staff will conduct these compliance monitoring inspections on a minimum quarterly basis.

### **Information and Education**

"We will place ourselves at the disposal of any infectious waste generator or transporter in need of assistance," Mr. Setty said, punning mildly. The department is planning a public information campaign and a series of seminars or in-service opportunities for interested persons. I would mention again, as I have in previous articles, that Mr. Setty and his staff are available for individual consultation at the program office, 788-0428.



Matthew A. Stefanak,  
MPH  
Health Commissioner  
Mahoning County

### **Complaint and Conflict Resolution**

The Mahoning County Health Department is also responsible for investigating complaints about improper handling and disposal of infectious waste. Ohio Administrative Code rules require us to inspect a generator within 15 days of the date of a complaint. Unless there is evidence of willful violation, our first response is to educate the offending parties in the belief that they will follow proper handling and disposal practices if provided with the correct information. Failing this, the department will take enforcement action, i.e., issue a notice of violation, establish a

### **Called to Active Duty**

This month's column will be the last one written by contributor Matthew Stefanak for at least six months. The Mahoning County Health Commissioner has been called to active duty due to Operation Desert Storm. A naval reserve lieutenant, Stefanak is serving as an epidemiologist at the U.S. Naval Hospital in Jacksonville, Florida. He replaces an epidemiologist who was sent to Saudia Arabia. Dr. Brian Gordon, medical director for the Mahoning County Board of Health, will serve as acting health commissioner in Stefanak's absence. *Bulletin* readers will miss Stefanak's insightful and well-written articles on public health concerns. The *Bulletin* staff wishes him well in his new military job assignment.



timetable for corrective action, conduct follow-up inspections, and, if necessary, take the offending party to court. The Ohio Environmental Protection Agency will provide technical and legal assistance in this process if requested.

The department will act as a liaison between local government officials and the community, providing them with information about the numbers and status of generators and transporters. We believe that the free flow of information will help to assuage heightened concerns in the community about infectious waste.

Many landfills already or will soon refuse to accept even small quantities of infectious waste. We can foresee the day when your garbage hauler will refuse to pick up infectious waste commingled with office refuse. We urge all generators to begin disposing of infectious waste as a distinct waste stream apart from municipal refuse. Such practices can only contribute to public confidence in the medical community's ability to manage the infectious waste problem. □

## A Sound Investment

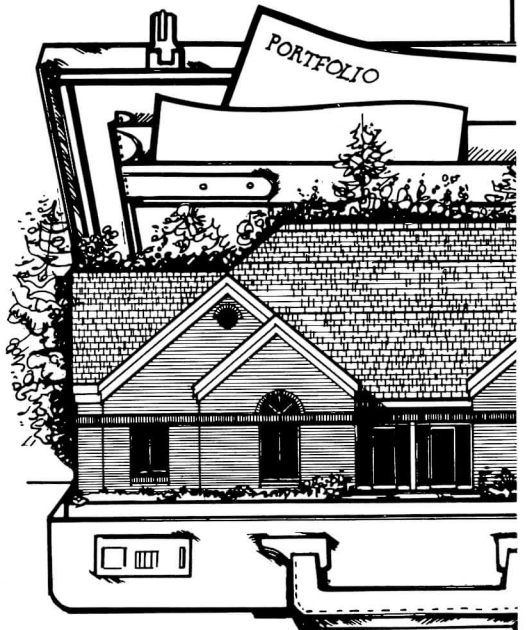
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### Case One

**Patient:** Female, 67 years of age, retired school teacher.

**Diagnosis:** Clearly infected ulcer on lower left leg, present for six years. Non-invasive venous testing revealed deep venous insufficiency. Findings confirmed by duplex imaging.

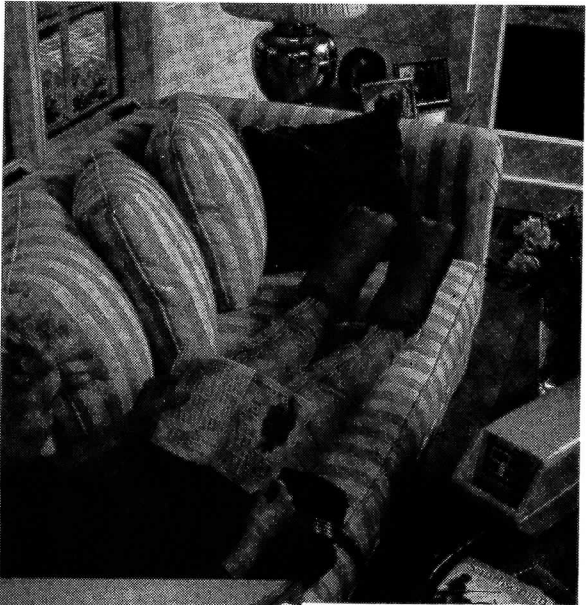
**Prior Treatment:** A variety of gauze and adherent dressings had been applied without success.

**Solution:** Wet/dry dressings were combined with intermittent pneumatic compression using the SCD Therapeutic System. After two weeks, considerable healing progress was evident.

Complete healing was achieved in twelve weeks. Compression stockings were prescribed.

In the nine months since healing, no recurrence has been observed.

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The SCD Therapeutic System is:

- lightweight
- portable
- easy to apply
- simple to operate

It's ideal for home use under the prescription and guidance of a physician.

\*References: Gerit Mulder, DPM, MS; James Robison, DPM; Jeannie Seeley, RN; Study of Sequential Compression Therapy in the Treatment of Non-Healing Chronic Venous Ulcers, Wands: A Compendium of Clinical Research and Practice 1990; Volume 2, Number 5

Coleridge Smith P. D., Scurr, J. H.; Hasty, J.; The Effect of Intermittent Pneumatic Compression on the Healing of Venous Ulcers, American College of Surgeons, October 23-27, 1988, Chicago.

Peknamaki, K.; Kolar, P. J.; Kiistala, U.; Intermittent Pneumatic Compression Treatment for Post-thrombotic Leg Ulcers, Clinical and Experimental Dermatology 1987; 12: 350-353

Joseph A. Caprini, M.D.; John H. Scurr, M.D.; James H. Hasty, Ph.D.; Role of Compression Modalities in a Prophylactic Program for Deep Vein Thrombosis, Seminars in Thrombosis and Hemostasis, 1988; 14: 77-87



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## Compound Creates A New Class of Antiviral Drugs

Imagine a toothpaste or a skin lotion that could control human viral infections such as herpes.

That is the hope behind a recent patent granted to inventors John Docherty, Ph.D., professor and chairman, microbiology/Immunology, NEOUCOM, and Jerry Pollock, Ph.D., professor of chemistry, oral biology and pathology, School of Dental Medicine, State University of New York at Stony Brook.

The patent is based on studies conducted in the late 1980s in the laboratory of Docherty, then associate professor of microbiology at the Pennsylvania State University. Specifically, the study focused on whether a polypeptide rich in histidine could inactivate virus particles rendering them harmless. A polypeptide is a small protein made up of basic units called amino acids which include histidine.

It was already known that histidine-rich polypeptides provided protection against fungi and bacteria and were naturally secreted by the human salivary glands. The question, however, was whether polyhistidines, a chain of histidines linked together, could work against viruses.

The results of their study demonstrated that polyhistidines instantly killed both the oral and genital types of herpes simplex virus.

"No one had ever tested these compounds on viruses," said Docherty, adding that the invention actually creates a new class of antiviral drugs.

"That's the scientific contribution," he said. "We have shown that, by studying antimicrobial proteins produced in the body, we can artificially construct similar substances that have the potential to control human viral infection."

The findings were reported in the October, 1987, issue of *Antimicrobial Agents*

and *Chemotherapy*, and patent number 4,863,900 was officially awarded in September, 1989. The studies were funded by The Research Foundation of State University of New York, Albany.

In addition to the finding that the drug can control viral infection, the patent also states that the drug may prevent movement of the virus from one person to another.

Included in the patent are potential uses of the compound, such as placing it in toothpaste, mouthwash, mouth spray, even candy or chewable vitamins and vaginal or rectal administration, such as foam, cream, jelly and suppository. Ophthalmic ointment and solution for eye infections are also described.

Docherty said that additional research on the specific uses of the drug need to be done before any products appear on the market. The need for antiviral drugs, however, is clear, and this invention has provided another avenue into that world.

□

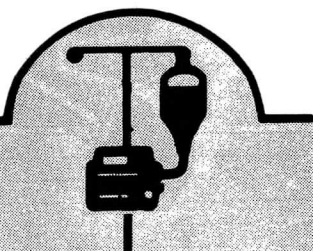
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- C. Newsletters and special bulletins to keep you up-to-date;
- D. Statewide seminars on issues and procedures;
- E. Provider Relations representatives throughout Ohio who make "house calls";
- F. Availability of an electronic claims submission network, to streamline office efficiency;
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### 50 Years Ago — February 1941

It was a rough winter. John McCann had chains on his tires. H.E. Chalker and L.G. Coe took their families to Florida. Chester Lowendorf went to New Orleans for the Mardi Gras. Myron Steinberg went to Camp Shelby, Mississippi, courtesy of the U.S. Army.

New members that month were: William D. Collier, Milton M. Kendall, Bertie B. Burrowes, Nathan D. Belinkey and Raymond J. Scheetz.

### 40 Years Ago — February 1951

World War II was behind us, but now we were involved in the Korean "conflict." It was supposedly a United Nations police action, but, as usual, the United States was doing most of the fighting. One hundred thirty six area physicians, forty nine dentists and five veterinarians registered January 15 under the new doctor draft law. The Army expected to add 1,733 physicians by March. Of those called up, one out of five failed to pass the physical examination. The major causes for rejection were TB, duodenal ulcers, neuropsychiatric illness, hypertension and asthma.

### 30 Years Ago — February 1961

Medicare for the aged was under debate in Congress and was being opposed vigorously by the AMA. Our strong opposition caused it to be enacted with a free choice of physician by the patient and free choice by the physician to participate or not. We all know how those choices are being slowly destroyed.

The Cultural Seminar for Physicians was held at St. Elizabeth Hospital on January 26. Mrs. Christine Dykema spoke on "The Aims of Literature." Sixty seven people were registered to attend, and seventy five people braved a snowstorm to attend. Also planned was a seminar in philosophy and a seminar in political science for later in the

year.

St. Elizabeth Hospital opened a new ward for psychiatric patients under the direction of Dr. Michael Kachmer. The medical staff honored retiring Chief of Medicine Dr. Paul Mahar.

New members that month were John T. Martin, Sanford R. Weiss and Richard Roland.

### 20 Years Ago — February 1971

Since February is heart month, new President John Stotler urged members to "take heart" and turn their efforts towards prevention of heart disease, instead of doing all that coronary by-pass surgery. Unfortunately, Dr. Stotler succumbed to heart disease a few years later.

New members that month were Filix A. Pesa, Bruce L. Lipton, Lawrence M. Pass and Sarah Yacono. Dr. Campbell Moses, medical director of the American Heart Association, was the featured speaker for the February meeting of the Society.

### 10 Years Ago — February 1981

At the annual installation banquet, outgoing President Pat Brucoli presented the new President, D.J. Dallis, with a new gavel made by Pat Cestone. In return, Dr. Brucoli was presented with a plaque of appreciation for his year of service to the Society. Over at St. Elizabeth Hospital, Dr. Bill Sovik was re-elected as president of the clinical staff. Dr. Bertie B. Burrowes died at the age of seventy.

New members at that time were Morris H. Drucker, Virgilio E. Angtuaco, Frank A. Rich and Anil C. Nalluri. □



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## Youngstown FREE-NET

In 1986, a unique experiment occurred at Case Western University in Cleveland, Ohio, under the leadership of Tom Grundner, Ed.D. He developed a computer communications system which provided the opportunity for individuals equipped with personal computers and modems to enter into a unique electronic city called Cleveland FREE-NET. This was the first of its kind, and in 1987 Youngstown FREE-NET became the charter organization, the FIRST established after Cleveland FREE-NET. Today the electronic communications network is being replicated in Cincinnati, Akron and Chicago as well as in cities in Illinois, California and Montana. These electronic communication capabilities go far beyond the traditional computer bulletin boards with which we have familiarity. This is a free system, open access, computer network established for practical use by individuals wanting to communicate or learn information from literally anywhere in the world. Today Youngstown FREE-NET links nearly 3,000 users to local, regional and national databases, health-information and business-commercial interests. It provides personal electronic mail as well as specific resources including libraries, colleges and government organizations.

Youngstown FREE-NET is known nationally for its unique program and the capabilities by which users can secure information from the Internet and Bitnet systems as well as *USA Today*. At a time when our community suffers from continuing problems of image on the national scale, this network is a singular and unique success. Currently, users of the Youngstown FREE-NET are from Europe, Canada, Australia, New Zealand and Puerto Rico. Anyone with a computer and a modem can access the FREE-NET system

sponsored collaboratively by St. Elizabeth Hospital Medical Center and Youngstown State University. We have great expectations that this system can continue to bring a different perspective to outsiders concerning not only northeastern Ohio but our community as well. The potential benefits far exceed electronic mail and include the following:

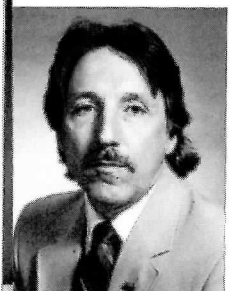
### **Economic Development**

Numerous businesses, including accounting firms and small businesses, now conduct daily communication using the FREE-NET system. Resources from within the university or businesses can provide information and advice, answer questions and give guidance in numerous ways otherwise difficult to secure. We are very optimistic that as the system grows we will have greater participation through Chambers of Commerce and economic development groups; then we can truly focus on the necessity for our community to enhance itself economically through support services provided in this unique system.

### **Education**

The potential for student use of FREE-NET is tremendous! From the classroom or at home, a student can find answers to questions, whether in the health professions or in career development. The student can communicate with faculty members at the university, NASA in Cleveland or simply carry on interactions with friends. Today, even greater numbers of students have computers in the classroom, and an ever-increasing number of families have computers in their homes. The use of the FREE-NET system for personal enrichment expands the computer potential beyond a gameboard or the regurgitation of interactive instructional programs.

*"These electronic communication capabilities go far beyond the traditional computer bulletin boards..."*



W. Robert Kennedy, PhD

---

## **Human and Social Services Applications**

Our community is unique in the national FREE-NET system because all of our United Way Agencies are now on-line with further expansion planned. We provide information on community services, access routes, location of offices and enhance inter agency communications. We anticipate that through this vehicle more appropriate programs may be developed to speak to issues such as drug education, teenage pregnancy and similar concerns.

## **Civic Information Applications**

We are optimistic that, in the near future, we will have a directory with all the city and county elected and appointed officials, meeting schedules, etc. Further, we will provide information to our citizenry or new residents regarding annual requirements for taxes, filing dates for voter registration and absentee ballots, how to obtain a dog license, motor vehicle registration changes and handicapped parking permits. All of these things are within reach at this point.

In the last statewide election, the League of Women voters placed all candidate position papers for local, regional and state offices on FREE-NET. This provided the public with a new dimension in home communications.

## **Community Information Applications**

Should you wish to know how to get YSU football tickets or the schedule of Butler Art Institute's lecture programs, FREE-NET has the potential to be the community bulletin board for such endeavors.

Youngstown FREE-NET is more than a computer located at Meshel Hall. It involves numerous individuals who believe in the system of free and open access of information and who want to supply information

or answer questions. When Akron comes aboard, we will be able to communicate throughout Northeastern Ohio. Businesses, schools, educational programs and other resources will have or make available information thereby making the home or business computer a unique information access point. Such a capability should be a source of community and regional pride. The fact that FREE-NET was developed in Cleveland and chartered with the Youngstown FREE-NET sets us apart nationally. Numerous computer publications have applauded the fact that the system developed here, not Silicon Valley, California. We have a basis for great pride. I hope that you will take the opportunity to encourage others to come aboard and see what opportunities reside on FREE-NET. If you want to direct a question to a NASA scientist, you can link through Youngstown FREE-NET to Cleveland FREE-NET and be on-line. If you want to see the Supreme Court decisions or see *USA Today*, these are accessible through FREE-NET as well. Further, the cost to you is only of the cost of a local telephone call. By being a member of Youngstown FREE-NET and CLEVELAND FREE-NET, you are linked from Youngstown by Cray Supercomputer Center FREE-NET. That is a local call.

Should you wish to have an application or further information, please feel free to contact me. I hope that this can be seen as a unique aspect of our community and something of great value to us all. □



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The Ohio State Medical Association, in response to proposed legislation that would create a universal health insurance system for all Ohioans, has produced a new patient-information brochure about the proposed legislation and some other, more viable alternatives.



The brochure, entitled, *Ohio's Uninsured: How we solve the problem*, provides facts about why the current health care access and financing problems exist and details the possible repercussions that can be caused by the implementation of a universal health insurance program similar to that in Canada. The brochure further explains how the American Medical Association's 16-point Health Access America plan may solve some of the health care access and cost problems that currently plague the state and the country.

Physicians may request a supply of the **free** brochures and the accompanying display placard for distribution to patients through their offices by completing the attached order form.

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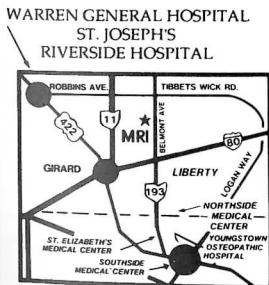
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**Memorabilia, Limited Ed. Lithograph: 30 x 23**

by Jacob Lawrence (1917 - )

Jacob Lawrence is one of the elite of America's living twentieth century painters. Born on September 7, 1917, in Atlantic City, New Jersey, this man has traveled a road of immense success and recognition. This may have begun with his representation at age 24 in a New York gallery. What makes this debut so notable? Two things: his youth and the fact that he was the first black artist to ever be represented by a New York gallery. Since that time, Jacob Lawrence has become widely known as the foremost black artist in America.

Around 1930, the family moved to Harlem where Lawrence spent his young adult years in workshops sponsored by President Roosevelt's Federal Arts Project. These projects were part of the government's program to encourage and sustain the artists of America during the Depression. Lawrence quickly progressed with his self-taught manner, gaining inner strength from his associations with fellow artists and gaining artistic knowledge from various scholarships and fellowships bestowed upon him. Throughout these experiences, Lawrence kept a strong awareness of his heritage which to this day he still portrays in his works. A member of the American Academy of Arts and Letters, Lawrence has also received several honorary doctorates and since 1971 has been Professor Emeritus of Art at the University of Washington in Seattle.

Lawrence's works range from drawings and paintings to prints, posters, book and magazine illustrations, large murals, enamel murals, and costume design. The main theme in his works is black American history, often told in everyday life events, and often showing the historic struggle of oppressed people in their efforts for freedom and justice. Lawrence is of the Social

Realism school, whose aim is story telling. His style of painting is quite unique. He uses collage cubism, where his shapes appear like cut-out pieces of colored paper, appearing layered and flat. There is no feeling of depth, and there are no shadows to distract from the often profound or philosophical statement being made. Use of color with Lawrence is very restricted.

In "Memorabilia," Lawrence shows a history of American black people. Their struggles for justice are spotlighted, but also their contributions are highlighted along with the importance of the church in all these daily activities. Building tools are in reach on one plane, giving a hint the black race has much yet to offer mankind if only given the chance to use its rich resources. This lithograph uses the main colors of Lawrence's palette, namely grays, blues, browns, yellows and reds. Of particular interest is his manner of showing larger than normal hands. These powerful hands symbolize courage, labor and strength. They also reinforce the thought that deeds and not just words will carry all men forward in their struggle for freedom.

It has been difficult cramming into this small article all the things that make up Jacob Lawrence's life and work, but suffice it to say, in viewing this artwork, you have been given a glimpse into the life of an important piece of America's contribution to the masters of twentieth century art.

□

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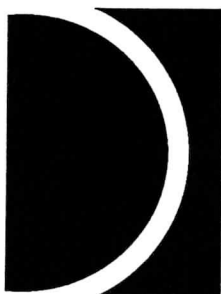
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*T.H. Huxley, "On Elementary Instruction in Physiology." 1877*

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