

Canton-Potsdam Lists Accomplishments

High-Quality Medical Staff Is Hospital's Pride

POTSDAM — "A high-quality and growing medical staff is one of our greatest strengths," according to Canton-Potsdam Hospital President C. Edward Stevens.

More than 90 percent of the active medical staff is Board-certified or Board-eligible, far above the average for physicians nationally, he noted.

Two physicians joined the staff in 1985, and the hospital cooperated with local officials in Norfolk to establish the Norfolk Medical Office. Other major events of the year included several key staff appointments in the hospital, progress on the Emergency and Ambulatory Care Center and the continued strengthening of medical services.

MEDICAL STAFF — Dr. Jack E. Ebani, urology, and Dr. Chi Lau, internal medicine, joined the staff during 1985.

Dr. Ebani, previously chief resident in urology at New York University Medical Center, began practice in July.

In 1979 graduate of Downstate Medical Center, Dr. Ebani served a surgery internship at Northshore University Hospital, and his residency in urology at N.Y.U. Medical Center. During the final year of his residency, he has also served as a teaching assistant at the Medical Center.

A native of Rhode Island, Dr. Ebani was raised in Brooklyn and received his undergraduate degree from Brooklyn College.



DR. SEBASTIAN A. MAZZOTTA

A graduate of the Cornell University School of Medicine, Dr. Lau came to the area in November. She practices in association with Dr. Jan Close at the Norwood-Norfolk Medical Building, 88 1/2 S. Main St., Norwood. Both physicians specialize in internal medicine, including heart disease and the general medical care of adults.

Born in Hong Kong, Dr. Lau moved to Long Island at the age of two, and is an American citizen. She

graduated with distinction from Cornell's undergraduate program, before attending the Cornell University medical school in New York City.

Completing medical school in 1982, she served her internship and residency at Mary Imogene Bassett Hospital, Cooperstown, in affiliation with Columbia Presbyterian Hospital. She has also served as an emergency room physician at Cobleskill Community Hospital.

The board of directors' physician recruiting committee has been active for more than 10 years and, on average, two new physicians have joined the staff each year. Among the committee goals for 1986 are family practice physicians, and an ear-nose-throat specialist.

Dr. Sebastian A. Mazzotta was elected chief of the medical staff at Canton-Potsdam Hospital. Dr. Mazzotta succeeds Dr. George Mima, who served as chief of staff for five years.

On the Canton-Potsdam Hospital medical staff since 1978, Dr. Mazzotta is a New York City native, a graduate of St. Peter's College, and received his medical degree from the University Autonoma of Guadalajara. He completed his internship, residencies, and fellowship at Downstate Medical Center. A specialist in gastroenterology, he is also trained in internal medicine and was an assistant clinical instructor of medicine at Downstate before assuming the directorship of gastroenterology and endoscopy at Canton-Potsdam Hospital. He has served on numerous medical staff and board of directors committees during recent years.

The medical executive committee, composed of the chief of staff and the chiefs of nine services, includes Dr. Mazzotta, Dr. Robert Bokar (pediatrics), Dr. Juliet Gill (anesthesiology), Dr. Harry Howe (surgery), Dr. Michael Kiken (obstetrics and gynecology), Dr. Samuel Livingston (general practice), Dr. Denis McLean (radiology), Dr. Robert Rogers, I (pathology), and Dr. Robert Rogers, II (medicine).

NORFOLK MEDICAL OFFICE — The Norfolk Medical Office opened March 4, as a result of cooperative effort between the community, town of Norfolk,

Canton-Potsdam Hospital, sponsoring physician Dr. Jan Close, and the Norfolk Lions. The Lions, who played a key role in establishing the original office several years ago, are assisting the town in paying for office furniture. Harry Laing is physician assistant in the office.

A graduate of the Yale University School of Medicine Physician Associate Program, Laing received his undergraduate training at Allegheny College. Serving as a primary care provider, he is trained to diagnose and treat patients, as well as prescribe medications. Harry resides in Norfolk, and is involved with the rescue squad and other community groups. His hometown is Eden, N.Y. In addition to town of Norfolk residents, persons from surrounding areas are also welcome to use the facility. The medical office is located on Main Street, next to the First National Bank of Norfolk. The phone number is 384-3206.

EMERGENCY AND AMBULATORY CARE CENTER — Einhorn Yaffee Prescott, P.C., of Albany, in association with Quentin L. Baukshian, Potsdam, were selected as architects for the Canton-Potsdam Hospital Emergency and Ambulatory Care Center. The decision was made by the building committee, appointed by the board of directors to select the architect, guide development of plans, and oversee construction.

Ground-breaking is targeted for June 1986, with completion targeted for May, 1987.

The building committee includes board member Sargent Whittier (chairman), John Goetze, Bill Smith, Bob Burns, Ron Scott, board member Morris Pinto, and board chairman Bill Sloan.

Of the \$1.1 million pledged to a recent capital fund drive, \$500,000 will go toward construction of the center and \$200,000 toward medical equipment in the center. The remainder is earmarked for other medical equipment, physician recruitment, and expanded parking.

Final approval for the project was given by the State Hospital Review and Planning Council on Sept. 26, 1985.

A \$530,000 Urban Development Action Grant (UDAG) was awarded during 1985, to support construction of the Center. The village of Potsdam will administer the grant, providing a low interest loan to the hospital. As the hospital makes payments on the loan, the funds will be available to support other development projects in the village. The grant resulted from close cooperation effort between hospital and village officials.

LIFELINE — A community service which enables the elderly, ill or disabled to call for help even if they are unable to get to the phone was initiated by Canton-Potsdam Hospital. The St. Lawrence County Office for the Aging, the county chapter of the American Association of Retired Persons and the hospital co-sponsor the service, called Lifeline.

For further information, contact Canton-Potsdam Hospital, at 265-3300, extension 5105. Out of the local calling area, you may call toll free, 1-800-545-3300.

ALCOHOL DETOXIFICATION UNIT — Completing its first year of service, the Alcohol Detoxification Unit treated approximately 200 patients.

The program provides a medically-controlled safe withdrawal from physical dependence on alcohol. Admission to the program is voluntary and may be arranged by scheduling an appointment. Referrals have come from rehabilitation programs, physicians, outpatient counseling services, employee assistance programs, and self-help programs.

The program is a regional referral center, serving St. Lawrence, Franklin, Essex and Clinton counties. For most patients, detoxification will require a five to seven day stay. Subsequently, the patient participates in a rehabilitation and counseling program.

In December, St. Lawrence County Alcohol Services and the Canton-Potsdam Hospital co-sponsored a weekend conference at the SUNY Star Lake Camp for children of alcoholics. Bob Sullivan, C.A.C., an alcoholism counselor at St. Lawrence County Alcohol Services, and Joy Thomas, BSN, RN, CAC, Director of Alcohol Service at the Canton-Potsdam Hospital, were the co-presenters.

The hospital conducted an extensive information program, called

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1985 Marks 1st Year Of Basta Expansion

For those who watch the calendar, 1985 marks the first full year of operation of the newly expanded Basta's Flower Shop, but for those people who like to keep an eye on local history, this year marks the 37th year of operation for the family-owned and operated business.

The "new" Basta's boasts about twice as much display and design space as the original shop did, but despite the expansion, nothing other than the additional services has really changed, says Joe Basta, owner and operator of the flower shop.

The expansion, which was three years in the making, may have made the shop larger, but according to Basta, "we will never be too large to offer that personal touch which has kept many of my father's original customers coming back again and again."

Basta said he would keep the personal touch in the shop at any cost, adding, "the shop was designed with our customers in mind."

"We have incorporated all the comments and suggestions of our customers made over the years, but tried not to disturb the homey atmosphere that they seem to enjoy here."

"I can remember my parents doing business over the kitchen table," says Basta, "and we will never give up that 'homey' feeling."

Indeed that homey feeling is still there and it works. The people of Ogdensburg have made the shop's new gift shop a hit. Not only do Basta's offer the full service of a flower shop but their gift lines run the gamut from collectibles like Frances Hook figurines and Tom Clark Gnomes to stuffed animals

and Cape Craft Wooden Ware.

Basta says he is not through expanding, though, he expects to keep setting up booths at bridal shows and other exhibitions around the North Country. They also plan on changing and adding different gift lines as the need arises and as customers express their needs.

Any doubts Basta may have had about the expansion project have been forgotten because of the strong support he has gotten from all of his customers on the project he called the "biggest move of his life."

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