

Have a story idea or suggestion?

House Call welcomes suggestions for articles as well as article submissions on the topic of health sciences history, particularly in central Ohio.

Suggestion or articles (750 words or less) can be submitted to the editor at: judith.wiener@osumc.edu or to: Judith Wiener, Medical Heritage Center, 376 West 10th Avenue, Columbus, OH 43210. Questions about contributions can be sent via e-mail or phone at (614) 292-9273.

Visit us on the web at <http://mhc.med.ohio-state.edu/>



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House Call

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In this issue

“Changing the Face of Medicine” at the MHC page 1-2

Annual Nursing Lecture Announcement page 3

Donation Guidelines page 3

Submissions Welcome! page 4

Medical Heritage Center Hosts “Changing the Face of Medicine” National Traveling Exhibition



S. Josephine Baker, M.D., Dr. P.H., was a prominent public health physician during the first half of the 20th century.
Library of Congress, Prints and Photographs Division, LC-USZ62-058326, ca. 1920

Women doctors are the focus of a new traveling exhibition opening at the Medical Heritage Center (376 West 10th Ave, 5th floor) on April 7, 2010. “Changing the Face of Medicine: Celebrating America’s Women Physicians” tells the extraordinary story of how American women who wanted to practice medicine struggled over the past two centuries to gain access to medical education and to work in the medical specialty they chose.

Since the mid-1800s, when Elizabeth Blackwell became the first American woman to earn an M.D. degree, women have made enormous strides in every area of medicine and have achieved success in work once considered “unsuitable” for women. Women physicians are now found in every branch of medicine. They are researchers on the cutting edge of new medical discoveries, educators, surgeons, family practitioners, specialists, and government officials. “Changing the Face of Medicine” features the life stories of a rich diversity of women physicians from around the nation and highlights the broad range of medical specialties women are involved in today.

The National Library of Medicine (NLM), Bethesda, Md., and the American Library Association, Chicago, Ill., organized the exhibition with support from the National Library of Medicine, the National Institutes of Health Office of Research on Women’s Health, and the American Medical Women’s Association. The traveling exhibition is based on a larger exhibition that was displayed at the NLM from 2003–2005.

“Women have brought fresh perspectives to the medical profession,” said Donald A.B. Lindberg, M.D., director of the National Library of Medicine. “They have turned the spotlight on issues that had previously received little attention, such as the social and economic costs of illnesses and the low numbers of women and



An illustration of anatomical lectures at the Women's Medical College of the New York Infirmary, Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper, April 16, 1870. The Women's Medical College was founded by Dr. Elizabeth Blackwell and her sister, Emily Blackwell, in 1869. National Library of Medicine, Images from the History of Medicine

minorities entering medical school and practice.”

Women physicians in the 21st century are benefiting from the career paths carved out since the mid-19th century by a long line of American women. Some early physicians featured in the exhibition are Matilda Evans, the first African American physician to be licensed in South Carolina, and Florence Sabin, one of the earliest woman physicians to work as a research scientist. Among the many other doctors whose stories appear in the exhibition are Antonia Novello, the first woman Surgeon General of the United States, and Catherine DeAngelis, the first woman to be appointed editor of the Journal of the American Medical Association.

Two interactive kiosks traveling with the exhibition offer access to the NLM's "Local Legends" web site (www.nlm.nih.gov/locallegends), which features outstanding women physicians from every state, and to a web site created for the larger exhibition at the NLM (www.nlm.nih.gov/changingthefaceofmedicine). The exhibition web site offers access to educational and professional resources for people considering medicine as a career, as well as lesson plans for classroom activities. A section of the web site called "Share Your Story," allows the public to add the names and biographies of women physicians they know. Materials from the Medical Heritage Center Collections highlighting the role that central Ohio women physicians have played in medicine will also be featured.

"We are delighted to have been selected as a site for this exhibition," said Judith Wiener, Assistant Director for Special Collections and Outreach. "Although 'Changing the Face of Medicine' focuses on women in medicine, its lessons about persistence, dedication, and courage in one's life choices speak to everyone—men and women and young adults—and to people in all lines of work."

The Medical Heritage Center is sponsoring two free events for the public in connection with the exhibition. The Opening Reception to be held in the Medical Heritage Center on April 7, 2010, from 4-7pm is a panel discussion featuring four of central Ohio's Local Legends, who will discuss how they have seen women change the face of medicine over the course of their careers. The Local Legends speaking in the panel are Clara Bloomfield, MD, Mary Fontana, MD, Carole Miller, MD, and Linda Stone, MD.


The second event is *A Lady Alone: Elizabeth Blackwell, MD, First Women Doctor in United States*, a one-act, one-woman play, written by N. Lynn Eckhart, MD of Harvard Medical International that will be performed by Professional Actress Linda Grey Kelly on April 22, 2010, 5pm (5:30 curtain) in Meiling Hall Auditorium (Room 160), 370 West 9th Ave.

Contact the Medical Heritage Center at 614-292-3275, email mhcmail@osumc.edu, or visit the Center's web site at <http://mhc.med.ohio-state.edu> for more information about exhibit or exhibit programming.

Changing the Face of Medicine: Celebrating America's Women Physicians is an interactive, multimedia traveling exhibition that honors the lives and achievements of American women in medicine, both past and present.

EXHIBIT EVENTS
April 7, 2010, 4-7pm, Medical Heritage Center,
Opening Reception and Panel Discussion
 Please join us for the exhibit's opening reception and panel discussion featuring central Ohio's local legends, who will discuss how they have seen women change the face of medicine over the course of their careers. This event is sponsored by the James V. Warren Endowment fund and is free and open to the public.

April 22, 2010, 5:00 pm (5:30 curtain),
Meiling Hall Auditorium (Room 160)
370 W. 9th Avenue, Columbus, Ohio
A Lady Alone: Elizabeth Blackwell, MD,
First Woman Doctor in United States
 Professional Actress Linda Grey Kelly will perform the role of Dr. Elizabeth Blackwell in this one-act, one-woman play, written by N. Lynn Eckhart, MD of Harvard Medical International. Refreshments will be served prior to the performance. This event is free and open to the public.

 Call 614-292-3275, e-mail mhcmail@osumc.edu, or visit <http://mhc.med.ohio-state.edu> for further event information.

Columbus Health Commissioner to Provide Annual Nursing Lecture

Teresa Long, MD, MPH, Health Commissioner, Columbus Public Health, will be the speaker at this year's annual nursing history lecture on April 29, 2010 in the Medical Heritage Center.

Long's lecture, entitled "Celebrating a Rich History of Public Health in Central Ohio," will describe the role of public health nurses in providing care in the central Ohio community.

A reception will take place at 4pm and the program will begin at 4:30. The event is free and open to the public.

This event is co-provided by the Medical Heritage Center Friends of Nursing History Steering Committee and the Ohio Nurses Foundation. One nursing contact hour will be awarded.

The Ohio Nurses Foundation (OBN-001-91) is accredited as a provider of continuing nursing education by the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Commission on Accreditation.

Please contact Judith Wiener at (614) 292-9273 or at judith.wiener@osumc.edu for more information.

Guidelines for Donating Your Materials to the MHC

Springtime is upon us and now is a great time to organize and consider a donation of historical materials to the Medical Heritage Center. The Center accepts donations of books, artifacts, and archival material that relate to its mission of providing a repository for the collection, maintenance and preservation of historical records and artifacts pertaining to the medical heritage of Columbus and Central Ohio.

Please call Collections Curator Kristin Rodgers at (614) 292-9966 or e-mail to kristin.rodgers@osumc.edu for more information about donating your materials to the Medical Heritage Center.

In general, your papers do not need to be re-organized. Archivists are trained experts in identifying items that are historically important and arrange papers on the principle of original order. Original order is the principle that organizations and individuals place their working files in a certain way for specific reasons. By re-arranging your papers, you destroy this original order and, thus, lose the connections that may have existed between records that were once placed together.

If re-arrangement is absolutely necessary, such as the case of combining records from a variety of locations, the following guidelines were written to help you organize your papers prior to bringing them to the Medical Heritage Center.

1. When applicable, keep materials in their original folder with original notations or labels.
2. Clearly label photographs, films, tapes, and other non-easily identifiable items in an inconspicuous and non-permanent manner.
3. Place items together that relate to a similar organization or function. Examples include: artifacts; audio/visual items; awards; books/ periodicals; correspondence; personal/ family documents and information; photographs and slides; professional organizations; publications; speeches; and teaching materials.
4. When in doubt, leave things as they are, or contact Kristin Rodgers at the Medical Heritage Center to assist you with the donation process.

For additional information, consult the on-line SAA publication, *A Guide to Donating your Personal or Family Papers to a Repository* at: <http://www.archivists.org/catalog/donating-familyrecs.asp>