

# Alumni Notes

## 1940s

**Lois (Schulman) Rifkin, B.S. '48** "Enjoying retirement, volunteering at local multimedia art gallery, visiting children and grandchildren, keeping fit at local gym, and flying at local airport (weather in Northwest permitting)."

## 1950s

**Donald J. Ludwig, M.P.H. '54** "In the 1970s I started the first public hospital HMO. I had a plan to allow persons in the county (Contra Costa) to join, full or part pay. The State Dept. of Health liked the idea and together we wrote up the plan and submitted it to the Feds who never bothered to reply! Never got any recognition for my advanced proposal!"

**Edmund J. Pezalla, M.D., M.P.H. '55**, vice president and medical director for Prescription Solutions, a pharmacy benefit management company, was named to the board of trustees of the Pharmacy & Therapeutics Society, a nonprofit association dedicated to serving professionals concerned with the delivery of high-quality outcomes-oriented pharmaceutical care in all health care environments.

**Henry P. Anderson, M.P.H. '56** "Still following up study of bracero 'guest worker' program conducted at UC SPH under NIH grant, 1956–1959."

**Chhaganbhai B. Bhakta, B.S. '58** "Last year traveled to China with 65 seniors and enjoyed. My wife Sarojben and I are enjoying three granddaughters: Kushmita, 8 years, Sajni, 5 years, and Preesh, 7 months. In summer traveled to Houston and area around; have remained active with community. I retired on November 6, 1995."

## 1960s

**Wilbur Hoff, Dr.P.H. '63, M.P.H. '54** "I continue to assist the SEVA Foundation to train community health workers to prevent blindness in India, Nepal, and Tibet."

**Mildred F. Patterson, M.P.H. '65** "I enjoy quilting—have two small quilts at Duke University Eye Center in the Touchable Art Center and a second, different wall-hanging for the October-to-December show 2006. I enjoy exercise classes six days a week, walking, and reading, in addition to quilting."

**Jean H. Hankin, Ph.D. '66, M.P.H. '63**, received the 2006 Edna and Robert Langholz International Nutrition Award from the American Dietetic Association Foundation at its 2006 Food & Nutrition Conference & Expo. She is professor and researcher emeritus in the Epidemiology Program at the Cancer Research Center of Hawaii and a retired professor of public health from the University of Hawaii, as well as an internationally recognized authority in quantifying the role of diet in chronic disease. She helped create and pioneer the use of dietary assessment methods for discovering differences among populations, such as identifying effects on the "Westernization" of Asian diets on the increased risk for heart disease, cancer, osteoporosis, and stroke.

## 1970s

**Steven Schwartzberg, M.P.H. '71** "Retired from Alameda County after 33 years. Last position, director, Alameda County Lead Poisoning Prevention Program."

**Allan Rosenberg, M.D., M.P.H. '72**, is a professor of pediatric GI and nutrition at the Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center. He welcomes calls or visits to New Orleans from fellow alumni.

**George Cernada, Dr.P.H. '75** "Met with J.F. "Jeff" Tsai, M.P.H. '63 (Health Education), in Taiwan in November 2006. A couple of years ago, Jeff retired from Taiwan National Health Ministry (MOH), where he was director, International Office. He continues to consult on international training for MOH, visiting Taiwan and Vietnam on overseas training contract negotiations. Both coauthoring article on Taiwan's fertility decline for World Bank publication (2007)."

**Sir Michael Marmot, Ph.D. '75, M.P.H. '72, FRCP, FFPHM, FMedSci**, was the keynote speaker at the Charles C. Shepard Science Award Ceremony, held June 14, 2007, at the CDC's Tom Harkin Global Communications Center. His address was titled "Health in an Unequal World." Marmot directs the International Institute for Society and Health and is research professor of epidemiology and public health, University College-London. He has been at the forefront of research in health inequalities for the past 30 years and in 2000 was knighted by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II for services to epidemiology and understanding health inequalities.

**Arnold Milstein, M.D., M.P.H. '75**, was appointed to the Medicare Payment Advisory Commission (MedPAC), the independent federal body that advises the U.S. Congress on issues affecting the Medicare program. He was also recently elected to the Institute of Medicine.

**Pamela Peeke, M.D., M.P.H. '76**, spoke about mind and body health in a lecture, "Seven Secrets of Staying Alert and Vertical for a Lifetime," delivered for the University of Maryland, Baltimore's Bicentennial Speaker Series. A Pew Foundation scholar in nutrition and metabolism, she holds the position of assistant clinical professor of medicine at the University of Maryland School of Medicine. She also owns her own media company, serving as The Discovery Channel's chief medical correspondent on nutrition and fitness.

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## Alumni Notes, continued

**Jim Giuffré, M.P.H. '77**, was named president and chief operating officer of Healthwise, a nonprofit organization that has been providing consumer health information to help people make better health decisions since 1975. Most recently, he was Healthwise senior vice president for new products and custom solutions. Before that, he was vice president for health plan sales with Well Med (and later with WebMD).

**Linda Smith Schermer, M.P.H. '77**

"Retired. Living and hiking in Sedona, Ariz. Just planted an orchard."

**Mario Gutierrez, M.P.H. '78**, director of rural and agricultural worker health programs at The California Endowment, received the 2007 Terrance Keenan Leadership Award in Health Philanthropy from Grantmakers in Health at



its annual meeting in February 2007. Established in 1993 in honor of Terrance Keenan, the award is intended to inspire others in the field to strive toward a standard of excellence exemplified by Keenan throughout his 40-plus years as a grantmaker. Gutierrez was recognized for his innovative approach to grantmaking—using the power of philanthropy as a force for supporting healthy conditions in the fields, communities, health care institutions, media, and civic life. Gutierrez was one of the visionaries behind the California-Mexico Health Initiative, a binational health program in partnership with the University of California Office of the President and the Ministry of Health of Mexico.

## 1980s

**Howard Pollick, B.D.S., M.P.H. '80**, is chair of the Oral Health Section of the American Public Health Association for 2007 and 2008 and is an American Dental Association expert spokesperson on fluoridation. He is also a full-time clinical professor in the Department of Preventive and Restorative Dental Services at the UCSF School of Dentistry.

**James Allen Crouch, M.P.H. '81** "As of January 5, 2007, I have been honored to serve as executive director of the California Rural Indian Health Board for 20 years."

**Merle Lustig, M.P.H. '81** "Living in Santa Cruz with husband Ron Glass and son Ben Lustig-Glass. Evaluator at Educational Partnership Center at UCSC."

**Jean Marion Naples, M.P.H. '81** "I have recovered from significant injuries from an auto accident. I am now back at Johns Hopkins but am on disability and not working. I was wearing my seatbelt."

**Mary Rodrick, Ph.D. '82, B.S. '59** "Retired after 23 years at Harvard Medical School doing research on regulation of immune response following thermal injury."

**Jacob Eapen, M.D., M.P.H. '84**, received the



Ellis Island Medal of Honor from the National Ethnic Coalition of Organizations at a ceremony on May 12, 2007, followed by a gala dinner at the Great Hall on New York's Ellis Island. Eapen has devoted his medical expertise to the health problems of undernourished children in developing countries and to poor and disturbed juveniles in the United States. The Ellis Island Medal of Honor celebrates the immigrant experience and seeks to honor Americans from a wide variety of backgrounds for their positive and lasting imprint on our society. Past recipients of the medal include, Rosa Parks, Elie Wiesel, Muhammad Ali, Arthur Ashe, and six past U.S. presidents.

**Robina Elaine Ingram-Rich, M.P.H. '86, M.S. '85**, is a founding member and secretary of the board of directors of the American Thrombosis and Hemostasis Network, and a member and secretary of the board of directors of the Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon.

**Anjali Morris, M.D., M.P.H. '86** "Helping to remodel Child Development Center in Pune, India. Have set up a learning disability center in India. Set up outreach program in schools for learning disabled children. Helping Manavya organization for 52 HIV-positive children (residential)."

**Lindene E. Patton, J.D., M.P.H. '86, CIH**, senior vice president and counsel in Zurich North America Commercial's environmental group, has been selected to serve as a member of the U.S. EPA Environmental Financial Advisory Board. She will provide advice and recommendations from a financial services industry perspective for EPA environmental financing programs and remediation projects.

**Charles A. DiSogra, Dr.P.H. '87, M.P.H. '75**, has joined Knowledge Networks as vice president, chief statistician. In this position, he leads the scientific elements of the company's KnowledgePanel<sup>SM</sup> and its substantial research-on-research efforts. He will also apply his statistical experience directly to client consultations and projects. Previously he was responsible for California's publicly funded tobacco-related disease research grant program, overseeing a portfolio of approximately 250 active grants through the University of California Office of the President. Earlier, he was the founding director and senior research scientist for the California Health Interview Survey at UCLA's Center for Health Policy Research.

**Jenny O'Dea, M.P.H. '88**, is associate professor in health education and nutrition education at the University of Sydney, Australia, and the author of *Everybody's Different: A positive approach to teaching about health, puberty, body image, nutrition, self-esteem and obesity prevention*, a new book that draws on her 17 years of research. In it she sets out school-based obesity prevention programs that, she says, "are certain to benefit and do no harm to otherwise weight-sensitive young people."

**Gail Woodward-Lopez, M.P.H. '88, R.D.,**



and **George R. Flores, M.D., M.P.H.,** have authored *Obesity in Latino Communities*. The monograph, published by the Latino Coalition for a Healthy California, presents a

set of principles and action steps for preventing obesity and overweight among California's 11 million Latinos.

**Irva A. Hertz-Picciotto, Ph.D. '89, M.P.H. '84** "Currently deputy director, Center for Children's Environmental Health, UC Davis, where I am leading the largest, most comprehensive case control study of autism yet. This project, known as the CHARGE (Childhood Autism Risks from Genetics and Environment) study, addresses underlying causes, triggers, and mechanisms for neuropathology leading to autism."

## 1990s

**Lisa Tremont Ota, R.D., M.P.H. '90,**



has launched SacredBite ([www.sacredbite.com](http://www.sacredbite.com)), an innovative nutrition education web site. "SacredBite inspires us to nourish our relationship with food for the benefit of

our individual, communal, and environmental well-being," she says. "It helps us begin to recover the body-centered spirituality necessary to restore our natural relationship with the environment, and to bring about eco-justice." Ota has a master's degree in culture and creation spirituality from Holy Names College and drew upon this background to create SacredBite. "I hope my fellow SPH alumni will join me at the table where together we can raise consciousness around what and how we eat," she says, noting that membership is "free, fun, and good for you."

**Jennifer June (Balogh), M.P.H. '91,** recently published her first book, *Cowboy Boots: the Art & Sole* (Rizzoli/Universe, 2007). "It's an opinionated and adventurous book that explains, through photographs and words, why people love

cowboy boots and why boots have remained such a longstanding icon of American fashion," she writes.

**Josh Bamberger, M.D., M.P.H. '97,** has worked for the San Francisco Health Department (SFDPH) since 1998. Currently he is medical director of housing and urban health. "Housing and Urban Health is the section of the SFDPH that provides the funding and oversight for programs, as well as medical care, to most of the formerly-homeless people living in supportive housing in San Francisco," he writes. "We opened our first DPH-run supportive housing site in 1999 and now have 13 buildings housing 1,000 people. In addition, my staff covers 26 buildings funded by the city's Human Services Agency. Overall, since we began in 1999, we have housed over 3,000 formerly-homeless people in supportive housing. My role is to coordinate all the medical and psychiatric care for these residents, as well as policy and planning to deliver case management services and continue to expand supportive housing." He is married to Debbie Josephs, a clinician with Planned Parenthood in Richmond, Calif. and the couple lives in North Berkeley with their sons, Noah and Eli.

**Elizabeth "Betsy" Stone, Dr.P.H. '98,** has been named director of quality management/risk management/quality improvement for Sutter Santa Cruz, a nonprofit that comprises San Cruz Medical Foundation, Sutter Maternity & Surgery Center, and the Visiting Nurse Association of Santa Cruz County. She will oversee patient safety and regulatory compliance. Previously she was at UCSF Medical Center, where she was director of the quality improvement department.

**Christina Clarke, Ph.D. '99,** is associate director of the Surveillance Research Division of the Greater Bay Area Cancer Registry, where she monitors changes in cancer incidence and survival patterns among various population subgroups. She is also involved with key research projects on breast cancer involving the investigation of geographic and temporal variations of breast cancer incidence in the Bay Area and scientific efforts to uncover immunological causes. Currently she is conducting two population-based control studies to explore

environmental factors associated with immune system development and its link to the evolution of breast cancer.

## 2000s

**David Yee, M.D., M.P.H. '01,** a traveling resident scholar with the International Volunteers in Urology (IVU), recently went with an IVU team to Vietnam. He writes, "During my trip to Vietnam, I gained a deeper appreciation of the difficulty of practicing urology in a developing country. Not only did I see varied urologic disease sometimes presenting at much later stages, but I also learned how those diseases were managed given the limited resources. Operating at Binh Dan Hospital has raised my awareness of this country's urologic disease pattern, particularly kidney stones and their public health impact."

**Sarah Altman, M.D., M.P.H. '02** "After graduating from UCSF in 2003, I headed to the East Coast, leaving the Bay Area for the first time in my life to become a part of the Cambridge Hospital Residency Program. ... This summer I return home to the Bay Area to start my career as a community psychiatrist. I will be working at San Francisco General Hospital as an inpatient psychiatrist on the HIV/GLBT unit, teaching first-year residents and medical students. I am excited about working again at a mission-driven, community-oriented, academic hospital. And I am looking forward to continuing my work on stigma and helping people with mental illness recover."

**Dana Gerstein, M.P.H. '02, R.D.,** received the 2007 American Dietetic Association Recognized Young Dietitian of the Year Award at the California Dietetic Association Annual Meeting held in Oakland, Calif., this past April. Recipients of the award are recognized by the national organization for having demonstrated leadership and concern for the promotion of optimal health and nutritional status of the population.

**Anne Gasasira, M.D., M.P.H. '03,** has conducted a study at Makerere University in Uganda showing that taking one inexpensive antibiotic

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## Alumni Notes, continued

pill per day (cotrimoxazole) and sleeping under an insecticide-treated mosquito net reduced the incidence of malaria in children by 97 percent. This work was featured in a recent article in the *New York Times*. She will be returning to Berkeley this fall to begin the Ph.D. program in epidemiology.

**Michael P. Wilson, Ph.D. '03, M.P.H. '98** "Testified in August 2006 before the U.S. Committee on Environment and Public Works (former chair: Inhofe; current chair: Boxer) on weaknesses in the Federal Toxic Substances Control Act that have allowed toxic chemicals to stay on the market and have impeded green chemistry innovation."

**LaVera Crawley, M.D., M.P.H. '04**, is an assistant professor (research) at the Stanford Center for Biomedical Ethics. When not working, she and her husband, Alec, enjoy spending their spare time remodeling their bungalow in the Rockridge neighborhood of Oakland.

**Marilyn Kwan, Ph.D. '04** "I currently work for a breast cancer survivorship study being conducted among the Kaiser Permanente Northern California patient population."

**Adam Levine, M.D., M.P.H. '04** "After finishing up my M.P.H. at Cal and my M.D. at UCSF, I spent about six months abroad, completing an internship at the World Health Organization in Geneva and traveling in South America. Afterwards, I bought my first warm coat and moved with my partner Janson to Boston, where I am currently completing my residency training in emergency medicine at Massachusetts General Hospital. When I'm not sewing up lacerations or caring for critically ill patients in the emergency department, I squeeze in time to work on research projects with various faculty members at the MGH Center for Global Health and the universitywide Harvard Humanitarian Initiative (HHI). About six months ago, I was appointed codirector of monitoring and evaluation for a collaborative

initiative between HHI and the government of Zambia to improve maternal and infant health throughout the country. ... I just returned from a one-month stint in Zambia, helping coordinate a baseline assessment of rural health centers in the Central Province."

**Rajnish Joshi, M.P.H. '06**, was admitted to the Ph.D. program in epidemiology last fall and has spent his first year working at home in India. He will return to Berkeley for the Fall 2007 semester.

**Nitika Pai, Ph.D. '06, M.P.H. '03** "Chimes of Campanile calm the mind; Discussions in class enliven our learning experience; Unlocking the free radical Bohemian Berkeleyan in you. Go Cal!"

**Renée Asteria Penalzoza, M.P.H. '06**,



describes herself as a "singer, songstress, guitarist, and activist who fuses social work with art." Her field work as research assistant in Caracas, Venezuela, and Buenos Aires, Argentina,

provided inspiration for a new full-length album, *Caras de Agente Doble E* (Faces of Agent Double E), which includes songs in English and Spanish with creative melodies and song themes, including public health issues ("El Mosquito," about dengue, and "La Vinchuca," about Chagas disease). The album was presented live in Buenos Aires, Argentina and aired live on Rock&Pop FM and Open Air Radio (Argentina). It was released in New York City on June 9, 2007. She is scheduled to play at La Pena in Berkeley on September 30, 2007. To download or listen to her songs, visit [virb.com/agentdoublee](http://virb.com/agentdoublee) (English) or [virb.com/agentedoblee](http://virb.com/agentedoblee) (Spanish). 🎧

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