medications used to treat ALS. So far, Caller, Stommel, and their collaborators have not found BMAA in any of the algae they’ve tested from New Hampshire lakes, including Mascoma. But that doesn’t mean BMAA is never present. “It seems like most species that we test will make themselves really feel. . . . This is the time for democracy to go into play. If the public gets mad enough . . . to bring pressure on Congress, you’re going to see some changes made. I am disappointed in people who say there is no health-care crisis. There is a health-care crisis.”

Paper: A scientific paper detailing what the researchers have found—or not found—is due to be published this fall, but there’s still a lot more work to be done before a link between blue-green algae and the ALS clusters can be confirmed.

Based on what’s known now, Stommel told the local paper, the Valley News, “I don’t think there’s any cause for alarm.”

Jennifer Durgin
Worthy of note

**continued from page 20**

Juliette Madan, M.D., an assistant professor of pediatrics, was awarded the Hitchcock Foundation’s 2009 Joshua B. Burnett Clinical Research Fellowship.

Robert Santulli, M.D., an associate professor of psychiatry, and two residents—Daniel Wiener, M.D., surgery, and Jamie Bessich, M.D., internal medicine—were the recipients of DHMC’s 2008-09 Alma Hass Milham Award, for those who “best exemplify humane and ethical values in the practice of medicine.”

Eugene Lariviere, M.D., an adjunct assistant professor of pediatrics, received the New Hampshire Pediatric Society’s Franklin Norwood Rogers Award, honoring the Retired Pediatrician of the Year.

Gregory Prazar, M.D., an adjunct associate professor of pediatrics, was named Pediatrician of the Year by the New Hampshire Pediatric Society. He’s also vice president of the Society and serves on the American Academy of Pediatrics' Task Force on Mental Health.

Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center was included among the nation’s top hospitals by U.S. News & World Report. The magazine evaluated 4,861 hospitals, and only 174 (just over 3.5% of the total) made the top 50 in one or more of 16 specialties. DHMC was included in four specialties—cancer; gynecology; orthopaedics; and ear, nose, and throat medicine. This is the eighth year in a row that DHMC’s Norris Cotton Cancer Center has been in the U.S. News ranking.

**Errata:** In the feature on health-care reform in Dartmouth Medicine’s Summer 2009 issue (“The Road to Reform”—see dartmed.dartmouth.edu/su09/f02), Dr. Sarah Goodlin, a geriatrician, was described as practicing at Latter Day Saints Hospital in Salt Lake City; its correct name is actually LDS Hospital. Goodlin delivers Medicare-reimbursed home care and hospital-based care. And in the feature on aging (“Hardy Stock”—see dartmed.dartmouth.edu/su09/f01), Dr. Radford Tanzer was incorrectly described as “a legendary ear, nose, and throat doctor at Dartmouth.” He was indeed legendary, for performing the first total reconstruction of an external ear, but he was a plastic surgeon. We regret the errors. Do we need our ears boxed?

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**Adele and Hugh**

Diagnosed with multiple sclerosis at age 21, Hugh Edgerton lived with the progressive disease for more than 60 years. Nonetheless, he and Adele, his wife of almost as many years, lived their life together to the fullest. “Hugh was one of those optimistic people who was confident that a cure will be found,” says Adele.

It is that hope that inspired Hugh and Adele to establish a charitable gift annuity with DHMC, designating that their gift advance neurological research. Funded with stock that had grown in value over many years, their gift provided Adele with a charitable income tax deduction and a fixed, guaranteed income for the rest of her life. “It seems like the perfect solution,” says Adele.

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**Sample Rates**

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