

DARTMOUTH MEDICINE seeks to convey the breadth and depth of the education, research, and clinical activities of DMS and DHMC; to serve as a publication of historical record; to stimulate thought and discussion on issues in medicine and medical education; and to reflect the range of opinions and activities among Dartmouth medical students, faculty, and alumni. Abbreviations used in these pages include DMS (Dartmouth Medical School), DHMC (Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center), MHMH (Mary Hitchcock Memorial Hospital), and DC (Dartmouth College). The opinions of contributors do not necessarily reflect those of DMS or DHMC.

DARTMOUTH MEDICINE is published four times a year—the Fall issue in late September, Winter in late December, Spring in late March, and Summer in late June.

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DMS28M0108LP



## FEATURES

### The Poetry of Caregiving By Susan Salter Reynolds 26

What is the essence of caregiving? Donald Hall—a former New Hampshire and U.S. poet laureate—found out when his beloved wife, fellow poet Jane Kenyon, was dying of leukemia. He drew inspiration from his memories of the way his mother had cared for elderly relatives. From the tenderness of Kenyon's nurses at DHMC. And from poetry.

### An Amazing Human Being By Laura Stephenson Carter 34

If you chanced upon Elmer Pfefferkorn as he was out on one of his daily walks, you would never guess from his humble demeanor that he's an internationally recognized scientist and a much-loved teacher of parasitology and virology.

### Into India By Timothy Takaro, M.D. 44

In the 1950s—before the Peace Corps existed, before Doctors Without Borders was founded—an idealistic young DMS graduate traveled to India with his family. This is his story—of working for three years at a TB sanitarium, of saving lives, of seeing his own life indelibly affected.

## ONLINE

Check out our online edition at [dartmed.dartmouth.edu](http://dartmed.dartmouth.edu) and this issue's **WEB EXTRAS** at [dartmed.dartmouth.edu/spring08/html/we.php](http://dartmed.dartmouth.edu/spring08/html/we.php).



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## COVER

It was a contemplative and loving life that poet Donald Hall, the nation's immediate past poet laureate, led with his late wife, fellow poet Jane Kenyon. Even after she was diagnosed with leukemia, their reflective nature stood them in good stead. The photo on Hall's desk shows him with Kenyon. The cover photograph is the work of Jon Gilbert Fox.