

# Burlington County Times



## The other side of the stethoscope

By: Peg Quann Burlington County Times  
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Most children don't relish a trip to the doctor's. As a little girl, Kelly Dzialo looked forward to it.

"I always enjoyed coming to the doctor's, even when I was sick," she said.

Now Dzialo will have the chance to greet and treat children at the same Medford practice where her parents brought her as a child, and at a new practice just opened in Mansfield.

The young woman with the long blond hair and winning smile is a doctor specializing in pediatrics. Fresh from her residency at St. Christopher's Hospital for Children in Philadelphia, Dzialo started working this month at Advocare Medford and Mansfield Pediatric and Adolescent Medicine. She's working alongside doctors who treated her as a child, including Dr. Harry E. Turse, who is retiring at the end of the year.

"I can't think of a finer replacement. It's great that I have someone whom I watched grow up replacing me as a physician," Turse said as Dr. Charles Scott gave Dzialo's nose a tweak. He got a squeak. (Scott is a magician. He can make any colleague's - or patient's - nose squeak.)

For the young woman who grew up in Tabernacle and graduated from Shawnee High School in Medford in 1999, working with these old friends is the perfect job.

"I first decided I wanted to be a pediatrician before high school," Dzialo recalled, as the physicians chatted during a lunch break last week. "I think it was just based off the experience here when I was young."

Dzialo graduated from Bucknell University and the Virginia Commonwealth University School of Medicine in Richmond. As a med student, she kept an open mind about other specialties. Still, her desire to become a pediatrician remained strong. There aren't many other specialties in which a doctor is "seeing the whole family at each visit."

Dzialo enjoys being home in South Jersey, close to her own family and friends. Her father, Edward, still lives in Tabernacle. Her sister, Suzanne Keubler, lives with her family in Shamong. And Dzialo, who lives in Haddonfield, is friends with Turse's daughter, Sarah, who is in medical school.

As she spoke, her niece, Katelyn Keubler, 2, timidly walked into the room and climbed into her aunt's waiting lap. Katelyn and her brother, Charlie, 4 months, were there for checkups.

Suzanne Keubler said it's "absolutely" great having her sister as one of the doctors.

"We've had some good experiences," she said. "Some shots, but some good experiences."

When Turse started the practice in 1975, he worked solo, seven days a week. As the community expanded, so did the need for pediatric care. He asked Scott to join him.

Now the practice has eight doctors and treats about 15,000 patients. It recently expanded to a new office on Route 206 in Mansfield.

"This is a good area to have a satellite office," said Rose Maruca, director of marketing for Advocare, a physician organization representing 52 medical practices in Pennsylvania and New Jersey.

The practice treats newborns to young adults. The staff is equally divided between women and men so that a teenager can talk to someone of his or her sex. When patients graduate from college or reach their mid-20s, Turse said, like good parents, the doctors "give them a boot + tell them to move on."

The doctors say pediatric medicine has changed somewhat in recent years. They mentioned advances in vaccines, including the development of the meningitis vaccine. They have seen more children with allergies, autism and behavioral issues in recent years, as well as a greater need for sports medicine. And they're treating more children born to older parents and more multiple births - most likely from advances in fertility treatments.

Teaching parents and children how to prevent accidents is a major focus in pediatrics, Dzialo said, because they are the leading cause of mortality in young people. Whether it's making sure a parent knows how to buckle a newborn into a car seat, warning young children to wear their bike helmets or stressing bike and auto safety with teenagers, it's all important. She labeled it "anticipatory guidance."

Dzialo hasn't had many unusual cases in her first two weeks of work, but pointed out: "Moms who came here as kids are bringing their kids back. The fact that I've noticed that speaks volumes for this practice."