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September 5, 2019

Medical Society of the State on N.Y.

Dear Colleagues:

I am pleased to submit to Council this report on the activities of MSSNY's 4th District.

Summer is typically quiet with regard to MSSNY activities. That has not been the case, however, in Franklin County. They had a meeting at which they approved a liability insurance policy for their officers, and they are in the process of updating their bylaws and verifying their tax-exempt status.

On August 7, Saratoga County Medical Society PAC member, Natalie Adler, M.D., and I met with Congressman Paul Tonko. We discussed the inadequacies of the currently proposed legislation about surprise billing and opined strongly that the New York model is preferable. Congressman Tonko expressed understanding and agreement, but we left a copy of a one-page summary of our position with his chief of staff, just in case the congressman was simply being polite and really had no idea what we were referring to. The congressman did volunteer that he was very happy with our advice about easing restrictions on which specialists can treat patients that are dependent on opioids.

The highlight of the summer was on July 27. MSSNYPAC hosted its annual Day at the Races. It was a wonderful afternoon of wining, dining, camaraderie, and exciting racing. The MSSNYPAC staff managed to secure highly sought-after tables for the prestigious Jim Dandy Grade II Stakes Race. I highly recommend this event, especially anyone who wants to cross a trip to Saratoga Race Course off of their bucket list. The weekend was capped off by a golf outing with this Councilor and Immediate-Past-President Thomas Madejski. Dr. Madejski comported himself quite well on the famous Saratoga Spa Course, and we should all feel proud to be associated with him.

Best personal regards,

Gregory L. Pinto, M.D.