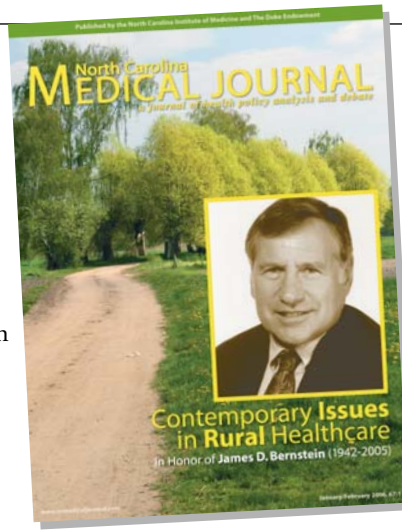


# Readers' Forum

## To The Editor:

I have greatly enjoyed my issues of the *North Carolina Medical Journal*, but none more than the January/February 2006 issue that honored James Bernstein. He was a remarkable man, and I found Donald Madison's article, in particular, both moving and informative.

The mention in Don's article of the Global Community Health Fellows Program, the brainchild of Bill Stewart, MD, when he was serving as Surgeon General of the United States Public Health Service, brought back memories of that remarkable group of individuals who were selected for the program. My closest contacts among the fellows were Steve Joseph, MD, who later became Health Commissioner of New York City, the Dean of the School of Public Health at Minnesota, and the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health and Medical/Department of Defense; Merve Silverman, MD, who later became Director of Public Health for the City and County of San Francisco and a national and international leader on HIV/AIDS; and Jim Brown, MD, who was the Director of Student Health Services at the University of California Berkley (UC Berkeley) and one of the founders of the Joint Medical Program at UC Berkeley and the University of California San Francisco. All remarkable individuals and contributors as was Jim Bernstein. Jim was what Tom Oliver and others have called "policy entrepreneurs" who could link problems to solutions to the political process, and do it effectively. That is a rare skill.



Leadership is something a lot of people write about, but few practice with the understanding that Jim had for all the elements of leadership. In Don's article, he describes what we might call "Bernstein's principles" on page 35. Very informative.

The January/February 2006 issue was special because of my high regard for Jim and because Don's article triggered so many thoughts about the evolution of rural health service over the past 40 years, including the critical role played by Jim and his colleagues in North Carolina.

*Phillip R. Lee, MD  
Program in Human Biology  
Stanford University*

*Editor's Note: Dr. Lee served as Assistant Secretary for Health under both Presidents Lyndon Johnson and Bill Clinton*

## 5th Annual North Carolina Conference on Aging

**October 25-27, 2006**

**Sheraton Imperial Hotel and Convention Center  
RTP, NC**

Visit the Conference web site for information.  
[www.aging.unc.edu/ncco](http://www.aging.unc.edu/ncco)

### North Carolina Conference on Aging

UNC Institute on Aging  
720 Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard  
CB# 1030  
Chapel Hill, NC 27599-1030  
919-966-9444  
[ioa@unc.edu](mailto:ioa@unc.edu)

## Don't Bring a Knife



## ... to a Gunfight

When it comes to protecting your personal or business interests, you need a law firm that is as tough as it is smart. Committed to its clients, Shanahan Law Group provides counsel that is creative, aggressive and results-oriented. Shanahan Law Group — Ready to do battle for you.

## SHANAHAN LAW GROUP

207 Fayetteville Street Mall • Raleigh, North Carolina 27601  
Phone: (919) 856-9494 • Fax: (919) 856-9499

Administrative, Regulatory and Licensing • Agriculture • Business Advice and Strategy • Civil and Complex Business Litigation  
Construction • Contracts • Employment • Estate and Trust Litigation  
Healthcare/Physician Practices • Wills, Estate Planning and Probate

[www.ShanahanLawGroup.com](http://www.ShanahanLawGroup.com)