



PGWMA — Officers of the recently formed Prince George's Women Physicians' Association pose together. From the left are Dr. Jill Karatinos, secretary; Dr. Faranak F. Sotoudeh, president; Dr. Marta M. Mondino, vice president; and Dr. Christine Delima, treasurer.

Photo By Rachel Cope Goldfarb

Market Place in Bowie.

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DOCTORS IN DISTRESS

Women physicians form own medical society

By RACHEL COPE GOLDFARB
Staff Writer

In a move some members call "courageous" and "gutsy," women physicians in Prince George's County have banded together in an effort meet some of their own special needs.

The newly formed Prince George's Women's Medical Association (PGWMA) was born of the isolation members have experienced in a primarily male profession.

"I was isolated," said Dr. Marta M. Mondino, chief of anesthesiology at Leland Memorial Hospital. "I was in a male dominated profession, particularly older males."

Dr. Christine Delima, a cardiologist, said each

one of the women had separately "wondered if it was just us, feeling that way. Now we know it is not."

The group began to meet formally after a colleague had cancer surgery and needed emotional and financial support. While working together to help her, the women discovered problems they had in common.

"We discovered subtle needs," said Dr. Jill Karatinos, a Crofton resident whose general family practice is in Bowie. "We would begin a sentence and the others would understand. We feel isolated from our male counterparts because we don't have all the same needs."

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