CALENDAR

FOR ALUMNI & FRIENDS

Unless otherwise noted, for information:
Ashley Knoch at 412-648-9059
or akk57@pitt.edu

ORIENTATION LUNCHEON FOR THE INCOMING CLASS
AUGUST 19
11:30 a.m.
University Club, Ballroom B

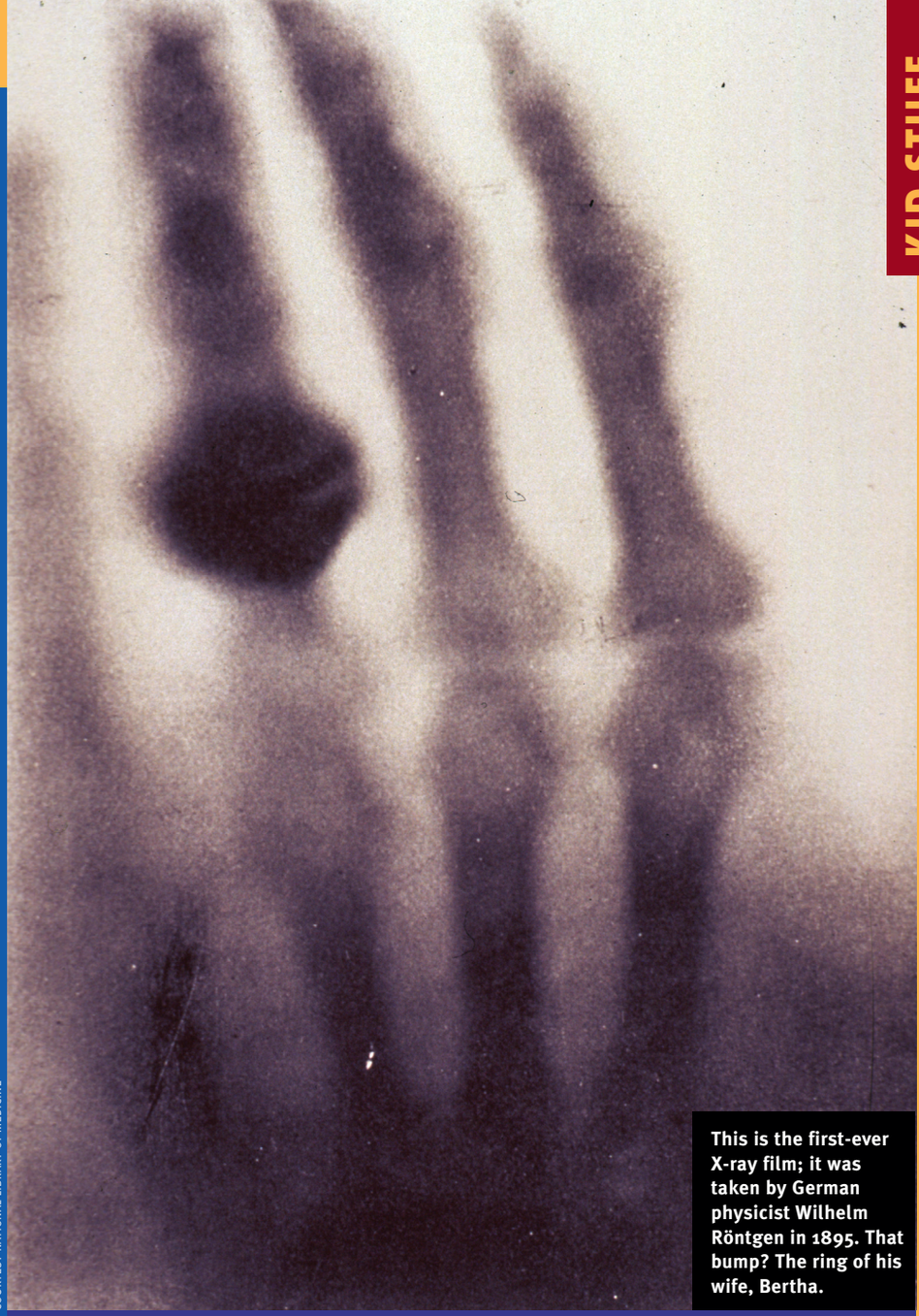
MARSHALL S. LEVY, MD MEMORIAL LECTURE
SEPTEMBER 2
9 a.m.
Lecturer—Mariana Kaplan, MD
Chief, Systemic Autoimmunity Branch
National Institute of Arthritis and
Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases
Scaife Hall, Room 1105AB
For information: Linda Sadej at 412-383-8123
or sadej@pitt.edu

ARIZONA PITT ALUMNI & FRIENDS RECEPTION
SEPTEMBER 8
6 p.m.
Mod Phoenix
For information: Rachel Edman at 412-864-1957
or rge6@pitt.edu

WILLIAM S. MCELLROY DISTINGUISHED RESIDENT AWARD RECEPTION
SEPTEMBER 23
6 p.m.
Phipps Conservatory
Recipient—James D. Kang (Res '92)
Chair, Department of Orthopaedic Surgery
Brigham and Women's Hospital

MEDICAL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION REUNION WEEKEND
SEPTEMBER 23–25
Reunion Classes:
1956, 1961, 1966, 1971,
1976, 1981, 1986, 1991,
1996, 2001, 2006, 2011

MEDICAL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION HOMECOMING TAILGATE
OCTOBER 8
Three hours before kickoff
Heinz Field, Red Lot 6



COURTESY NATIONAL LIBRARY OF MEDICINE

This is the first-ever X-ray film; it was taken by German physicist Wilhelm Röntgen in 1895. That bump? The ring of his wife, Bertha.

FOR REAL! TWEEN SCIENCE

If you've ever had a bad tumble, you've probably had X-rays taken. Using an extra-powerful version of light, an X-ray machine lets doctors get a gander at your skeleton. Just like a flashlight beam can shine through a window but not a wall, an X-ray beam passes through stuff that's made of lightweight atoms (soft tissues like skin, fat, and muscles), and it's absorbed by stuff that's made of heavy atoms (like bone). Typically tissue looks gray, and bone looks white. A plate underneath your body captures the full image—and exposes the black empty spaces where the bone has been broken.

There are different kinds of X-rays, too. Mammography, partly invented by Pitt med alum Robert Egan, can find cancerous growths inside breast tissue. We're still waiting for someone to invent X-ray spectacles, though! *—Lela Nargi*

Big thanks to Pitt's chair of radiology, Jules Sumkin, for illuminating this subject.