

## Local Women Served In World War II

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Dolores Zebrowski, a Sag Harbor girl all her life, always wanted to be a nurse and enrolled in the training program at Southampton Hospital in the early 1940s. She was born a Mulvihill, a well-known local family, and had attended St. Andrews Grade School and Pierson High. With her father a career Navy man and two brothers in the service, she volunteered for the U.S. Army Nurse Corps as soon as she graduated. After basic training in Fort Dix, the Army assigned her to Halloran Hospital on Staten Island where thousands of wounded soldiers arriving on hospital ships were evaluated for further treatment.

Hospital trains left from New York carrying the wounded to cities all over the United States. The trains traveled coast to coast, bringing the soldiers to communities and hospitals where they could best be cared for. Dolores made many trips all the way to the West Coast and, since she was junior in rank, often had the responsibility of night duty nurse for the entire train. “When the train stopped at some little town, local people would appear at trackside with food and coffee. Sometimes one of the cars carried wounded German prisoners who were happy to be out of the war. Strange how some things stay in your mind — when we nurses requested it, the German soldiers would sing their sad, love ballad, “Lili Marlene” and we would all get teary.”

In California, the medical staff brought wounded men aboard from the Pacific and began a reverse cross-country trip. She says proudly that in World War II over half the nurses in the United States volunteered for military service.





























































