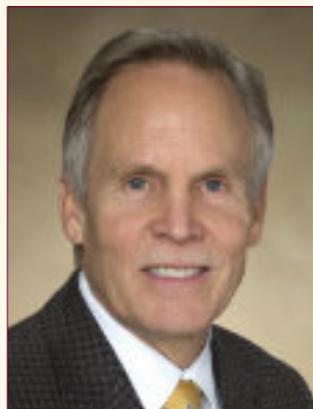


## Recognition

### Cardiologist Thomas Drew, MD, Honored with Milton Hamolsky Outstanding Physician Award



LIFESPAN

PROVIDENCE – The medical staff of Rhode Island Hospital awarded cardiologist **THOMAS DREW, MD**, the 2014 Annual Milton Hamolsky Outstanding Physician Award. Dr. Drew was honored for his dedication to ethical practice, outstanding clinical skills and commitment to medical education. The award is the highest honor the medical staff bestows on one of its own.

“Dr. Drew is an extraordinary physician who has inspired other physicians through his dedication to excellence, unparalleled medical skills and compassionate care,” said Latha Sivaprasad, MD, chief medical officer of Rhode Island Hospital. “On behalf of all of the Rhode Island Hospital physicians, it is my distinct honor to recognize Dr. Drew for his integrity and commitment to medicine.”

“For more than four decades, Dr. Drew has been an accomplished cardiologist and educator, and has contributed enormously to the field of cardiology,” said Samuel Dudley, MD, PhD, chief of cardiology at Rhode Island and The Miriam hospitals, and director of the Cardiovascular Institute. “He has always offered his time, wisdom and support to colleagues throughout his career and inspires all to emulate his professionalism.”

“Milton Hamolsky is no longer here to present the award that was named in his honor,” said Daniel J. Levine, MD, who

nominated Dr. Drew. “But if he were, we are willing to bet that he would have been delighted by this year’s choice, Milton’s own physician. Tom is an amazingly talented and energetic man who has been at the heart of medical care and cardiology care for a long time. He has done so with grace and vision. He has supported us in who we are and helped us forward with a vision of who we should be.”

Dr. Drew, of Providence, is also a clinical associate professor of medicine at The Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University. During his career he has volunteered his time to numerous professional associations including the Bristol County Medical Society, University Cardiology Foundation (formerly Rhode Island Hospital Cardiology Foundation), and the American College of Cardiology. He is a prolific author of medical academia and a frequent presenter on cardiac medicine.

After graduating from Columbia University’s College of Physicians and Surgeons and completing his residency, Dr. Drew served a two-year stint with the United States Public Health Service Center for Disease Control. He joined the staff of Rhode Island Hospital in 1977.

The Milton W. Hamolsky Outstanding Physician Award is presented each year to a doctor who has made exceptional contributions to patient care and leadership. Milton Hamolsky, MD, who passed away in January, 2014 at age 92, was an endocrinologist who came to Rhode Island Hospital in 1963 and served as the first full-time physician-in-chief. Dr. Hamolsky served as the chief administrative officer of the Rhode Island Board of Medical Licensure and Discipline and was a noted pioneer of medical education in Rhode Island. ❖

### W&I’s Dr. Star Hampton Brings Specialty Care to Women in Rwanda

PROVIDENCE – Each year in sub-Saharan Africa, it is estimated that more than 33,000 women develop obstetric fistulae and subsequent urinary and/or fecal incontinence. Unfortunately, these women are currently not able to be adequately repaired by local physicians due to lack of training and resources.

Recently, **DR. STAR HAMPTON** and her senior fellow, **DR. SONALI RAMAN**, of the Division of Urogynecology and Reconstructive Pelvic Surgery at Women & Infants Hospital traveled to Rwanda with the International Organization for Women and Development (IOWD) as part of a fistula repair team. Dr. Hampton has been travelling to Africa each year since 2005, when she was a urogynecology fellow at NYU, and she is now the team leader and lead surgeon for the

IOWD mission. Two graduates from the Women and Infants fellowship, Dr. Blair Washington and Dr. Peter Jeppson, are now attendings on the surgical team after experiencing this as senior fellows with Dr. Hampton.

The team from Women & Infants Hospital worked in Kigali, Rwanda, where they served for two weeks at Kibagabaga Hospital with a team of American surgeons, anesthesiologists, and nurses. They collaborated with and trained Rwandan physicians, medical students, and nursing staff, teaching them post-surgical care for the women, as well as basic anatomy, surgical preparation, sterility concepts, evaluation, and



WOMEN &amp; INFANTS

Star Hampton, MD

surgical approaches. Dr. Raman also ran a fourth-degree laceration workshop that was attended by more than 60 Rwandan care providers.

During this trip, Dr. Hampton’s team evaluated more than 130 women with fistula who were waiting for them and their skilled surgical hands. The team was able to successfully

operate on over 50 of these women. “Our team was able to provide basic and advanced care to the women in Africa, women whose lives were definitely improved. We worked hard to tackle difficult surgical cases and to create meaningful results for the women of Rwanda.” ❖

## Appointments



LIFESPAN

### Ziya Gokaslan, MD, Named Chief of Neurosurgery at RIH, Miriam Hospitals; Neurosurgery Chair at Alpert Medical School

PROVIDENCE – **ZIYA L. GOKASLAN, MD, FACS**, has been appointed chief of neurosurgery at Rhode Island Hospital and The Miriam Hospital, and chairman of the Department of Neurosurgery at The Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University, effective July 1, 2015.

In this role, Dr. Gokaslan, who comes to Rhode Island from Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, will lead all clinical, research and teaching efforts in neurosurgery across the entire Lifespan system. In addition, he will serve as the clinical director of the highly regarded Norman Prince Neurosciences Institute where he will be responsible for continuously enhancing collaboration and advancement among the institute's neurosciences faculty and the Brown Institute for Brain Science.

"We are thrilled to welcome Dr. Gokaslan, an internationally renowned neurosurgeon, to Lifespan," said Timothy J. Babineau, MD, president and chief executive officer of Lifespan. "Dr. Gokaslan's remarkable achievements and expertise will further advance Lifespan's commitment to becoming a national leader in the area of neurosurgery and neuroscience. We were fortunate to be able to attract one of the very best in the country to Lifespan and Rhode Island."

"Dr. Gokaslan is a skilled surgeon, a talented educator and scientist, and he understands the strength of academic medicine," said Jack A. Elias, MD, dean of medicine and biological sciences at Brown University. "His mentorship of medical students, residents and fellows is well known, and we admire his dedication to the advancement of knowledge in the neurosciences."

Most recently, Dr. Gokaslan has served as the vice chairman of the department of neurosurgery, director of the neurosurgical spine program, director of the neurosurgical spine metastasis center and a professor of neurosurgery, oncology and orthopedic surgery at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine in Baltimore, Maryland. Prior to joining Johns Hopkins, Dr. Gokaslan was an associate professor of neurosurgery at the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston and served as deputy chair of its department of neurosurgery.

Dr. Gokaslan's clinical practice focuses on the radical surgical

treatment of both primary and metastatic spinal tumors, sacral neoplasms and spinal cord tumors. He developed many novel approaches for resection of pancoast tumors, spinal neoplasms, as well as sacral tumors, including total sacrectomy and complex spinal and pelvic reconstruction. Dr. Gokaslan transformed the surgical treatment of spinal neoplasms and devised techniques rendering certain tumors resectable once deemed inoperable. These led to significant improvement of survival in patients with various neoplastic conditions. His basic research focuses on the development of new animal models to study the pathophysiology of neoplastic spinal cord compression and to define the roles of proteolytic enzymes in tumor invasion and to devise novel therapeutic approaches to treat spinal tumors.

He is a prolific researcher serving as principal investigator and collaborator on numerous projects regarding spinal oncology and surgery. He has authored over 300 peer-reviewed papers and presented more than 250 national and international lectures since 1996. He has authored and co-authored four book and numerous book chapters. He serves on the editorial boards of top academic journals, including the *Journal of Spinal Disorders & Techniques*, *European Spine Journal*, *Nature Reviews in Neurology*, the *Journal of Surgical Oncology*, and *World Neurosurgery*. He also served as co-editor of *Journal of Neurosurgery-Spine* from 2012 to 2013. He is a member of numerous prestigious societies, notably the Society of Neurological Surgeons, the Cervical Spine Research Society, the American Society of Clinical Oncology, the American Association of Neurological Surgeons, the Congress of Neurological Surgeons and the North American Spine Society as well as Scoliosis Research Society. He is also a past president of the American Association of Neurological Surgeons/Congress of Neurological Surgeons' disorders of the spine and peripheral nerves section.

Dr. Gokaslan was recently awarded the Leon Wiltse Clinical Research Award by the North American Spine Society for his excellence in leadership and clinical research in spine care.

Dr. Gokaslan earned his medical degree from the University of Istanbul, Turkey. He completed an internship in general surgery, a fellowship in neurotraumatology and a residency in neurosurgery at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, Texas. From 1993 to 1994, he was a fellow in clinical spinal surgery at New York University Medical Center. ❖

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## Appointments



### Renee Eger, MD, Named Medical Director of Women's Primary Care Center

PROVIDENCE – **RENEE EGER, MD**, of Sharon, MA, has been named medical director for the Women's Primary Care Center of Women & Infants Hospital of Rhode Island, a Care New England Hospital.

"Dr. Eger brings extensive clinical and administrative experience to the position as well as a passion for teaching and patient care. Her enthusiasm and vision for

women's health and improving health care delivery will serve our patients and community well," said Maureen G. Phipps, MD, MPH, chief of obstetrics and gynecology at Women & Infants Hospital, executive chief of obstetrics and gynecology at Care New England, Chair and Chace-Joukowsky Professor in the Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology and assistant dean for teaching and research in women's health at The Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University, and professor of epidemiology at the Brown University School of Public Health.

Dr. Eger has been serving the health care needs of the women of Rhode Island and southeastern Massachusetts for more than 20 years. A graduate of Brown University and Tufts University School of Medicine, Dr. Eger completed her residency at Women & Infants Hospital and is board certified by the American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology. In 2013, she was certified by the Center of Excellence in Minimally Invasive Gynecology. ❖



### Michael Stan-China, MD, Named Medical Director of RWMC's Sleep Disorders Center

PROVIDENCE – **MICHAEL L. STAN-CHINA, MD, FCCP**, has been named medical director of the Sleep Disorders Center of Roger Williams Medical Center. He is a pulmonary/sleep medicine physician with University Pulmonary Associates and Asthma

Center in East Greenwich.

He received his medical degree from West Virginia University School of Medicine. Dr. Stan-China served a residency in internal medicine at New England Medical Center, where he was chief medical resident.

Dr. Stan-China completed a clinical research fellowship in pulmonary/sleep medicine from Brigham and Women's Hospital. He also completed a Fellowship in Clinical Pulmonary/Critical Care Medicine with rotations at Massachusetts General Hospital, Brigham and Women's Hospital, Beth Israel Deaconess Hospital, and the West Roxbury VA Hospital.

He is a member of numerous professional societies including American Academy of Sleep Medicine and the American Sleep Disorders Association. Dr. Stan-China is a clinical assistant professor at the Alpert Medical School of Brown University. He has served as president and is a charter member of the Rhode Island Thoracic Society, ATS Chapter. He holds a number of professional licenses and board certifications including as a diplomate with the American Board of Sleep Medicine. ❖

## Recognition

### Kate Lally, MD, Named Inspirational Leader in Hospice and Palliative Medicine

PROVIDENCE – **KATE LALLY, MD, FACP**, has been named an inspirational leader in hospice and palliative medicine under the age of 40 by the American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine (AAHPM). AAHPM asked its 5,000 members to nominate individuals who are the young leaders in the field. Dr. Lally is one of these physicians recognized by her peers for innovation in and dedication to the medical specialty of Hospice and Palliative Medicine and AAHPM.

Dr. Lally is the director of palliative care at Care New England, hospice medical director at the VNA of Care New England, and clinical assistant professor of medicine at the Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University.

"All of us at Care New England are committed to providing



the best possible care for our patients throughout their lives," said Dr. Lally. "We work closely with our patients and their families to ensure we are providing care that is consistent with their wishes. To be recognized for our collective efforts around such an important topic is an honor."

In 2012, under Dr. Lally's leadership, Care New England became a pioneer sponsor of The Conversation Project, a public campaign co-founded by Pulitzer Prize-winner Ellen Goodman and developed in collaboration with the Institute for Healthcare Improvement. The Conversation

Project is a public campaign with a simple and transformative goal: to have every person's end-of-life wishes expressed and respected. ❖

## Obituaries

 **ALPHONSE R. CARDI, MD**, 100, of Cranston, passed away on March 6, 2015 at home surrounded by his loving family. He was the beloved husband of the late Elvira M. (Ritacco) Cardi for 63 years. Dr. Cardi was a graduate of LaSalle



Academy, Providence College and Georgetown University School of Medicine.

Upon completion of his medical residency, with WW II in progress, along with many of his colleagues he entered into active military service. For three life altering years he served in the Army Medical Corps, joining the 29th Division, 115th Infantry as a battalion surgeon. He was one of the extraordinary

members of the "Greatest Generation" who participated in the storming of Omaha Beach - Dog Red in Normandy on D-Day, and was recognized by the French government for his participation in the liberation of France. He subsequently served as head of a hospital in Germany following the liberation of the concentration camps. For his participation in military service he received a Purple Heart, Oak Leaf Cluster to the Purple Heart, Combat Badge, Bronze Star, Bronze Arrowhead for Invasion of Normandy and Combat Medic Badge, achieving the rank of captain.

In 1946, upon his discharge from military service, Dr. Cardi returned to Cranston and opened his medical practice retiring in 2002 at age 88. Remarkably, he maintained his medical license until his death. During his long medical career, he served as the Director of the Department of Family Practice at St. Joseph Hospital (now Fatima) for 23 years. He was a Charter Fellow of the American Academy of Family Physicians and a member of numerous national and local medical associations. He was an ordinary man who accomplished extraordinary things. He was a proud patriot whose life was defined by courage and devotion to faith, family and medicine.

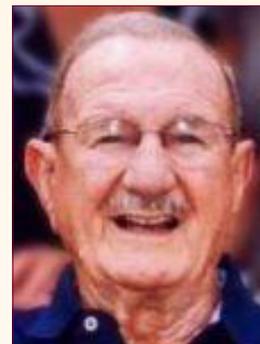
He was a strong advocate for education, establishing various academic scholarships most notably at Saint Mary's School, Providence College and St. Joseph's Hospital School of Nursing. He was the devoted father of Alphonse R. Cardi, Jr. of Cranston, Carol A. Troncoso and Vera Lee Sharoff, both of New Jersey, Elizabeth Cardi Talwar of East Greenwich, and Patricia M. Cardi (Calabrese) of New York City; loving grandfather of Christine, Alphonse, Alex, Elizabeth, Stephen, Nisha, Anand, Gia, Carrie Lynn, Jeffrey and the late Stephanie Cardi; loving great-grandfather of Bella, Bailey, Angela and Jack; dear brother of Mary Barone, Elizabeth Paoella and Dr. Erminio Cardi and the late Rev. Roland Cardi, Irene Quintavalle, Angelina Cantone, Peter, Paul and Nicholas Cardi.

Memorial donations may be made to Disabled American Veterans (DAV), 1 Capitol Hill, Providence, RI 02908.

 **LOUIS ANTHONY LAPERE, MD**, 88, of Westerly, RI, died peacefully on March 17, 2015 at his home, surrounded by his loving family. He was the beloved husband of Mary F. (Healy) LaPere for over 31 years.

Born in Westerly on May 25, 1926, he was the son of the late Frank and Josephine (Albamonti) LaPere.

Dr. LaPere attended Westerly schools, and, after serving in the Army Air Corps during World War II, attended the University of Rhode Island through his GI Bill benefit, majoring in premed. He attended medical school at the University of Bologna in Italy, and was the first specialist in the field of obstetrics



and gynecology to open a practice in Westerly. He practiced medicine here in his hometown of Westerly for 30 years and delivered more than 9,000 babies.

In addition to his wife he will be sadly missed by his 7 children; Paula LaBarre (Mark) of Taftville, CT.; Frank LaPere (Caroline) of Tucson, AZ; Laura White (Jeffrey) of Westerly, Maresa Pray (Scott) of Higganum, CT; Thomas, Amy, and Sarah LaPere all of Westerly. He was the loving "Poppie" to 7 grandchildren and 7 great-grandchildren. He was the brother of Barbara Gencarella of Westerly and the late Bertha Morrison. He leaves many nieces and nephews. His former wife, Beverly LaRiviere Hitchman, also survives him.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Home and Hospice Care of Rhode Island, 1085 N Main St, Providence, RI 02904 or the Louis A. LaPere, MD, Memorial Scholarship Fund, which for the last 14 years has been awarded to a graduating senior from Westerly High School who intends to pursue a career in the medical field. Donations to the scholarship fund may be sent in care of Laura White, 3 Bellevue Ave, Westerly, RI, 02891.