



One Call Does It All!
401-354-7115



Rhode Island's Medical Staffing Experts!

As a Valued Sponsor of the Rhode Island Medical Society, Favorite Healthcare Staffing provides a comprehensive range of staffing services at preferred pricing to RIMS members.

Serving the Rhode Island healthcare community since 1981, Favorite continues to set the standard for quality, service, and integrity in medical staffing. Call today and let us show you why we are *The Favorite Choice* of Physician Practices and Healthcare Professionals across the US!

***Quality Staffing,
Exceptional Results!***



Favorite is a Valued Sponsor of the Rhode Island Medical Society

Phone: 401-354-7115

Email: MedicalStaffing@FavoriteStaffing.com

Joint Commission Health Care
Staffing Services Certification



AA / EOE / M / F / V / D

Recognition

Dr. Eric Morrow receives Presidential Early Career Awards for Scientists and Engineers



DR. ERIC MORROW, associate professor of biology and of psychiatry and human behavior in the Warren Alpert Medical School specializing in neurodevelopmental biology and autism treatment, won the nation's top honor for a young scientist.

Dr. Morrow was one of 102 scientists and researchers as recipients of the Presidential Early Career Awards for Scientists and Engineers (PECASE), the highest honor bestowed by the United States Government on science and engineering professionals in the early stages of their independent research careers.

"I congratulate these outstanding scientists and engineers on their impactful work," President Obama said. "These innovators are working to help keep the United States on the cutting edge, showing that Federal investments in science lead to advancements that expand our knowledge of the world around us and contribute to our economy."

The awards, established by President Clinton in 1996, are coordinated by the Office of Science and Technology Policy within the Executive Office of the President. Awardees are selected for their pursuit of innovative research at the frontiers of science and technology and their commitment to community service as demonstrated through scientific leadership, public education, or community outreach. ❖

Southcoast Health named among top 5 percent of hospitals in the nation for clinical outcomes

NEW BEDFORD, MASS. – Southcoast Health has received the *2017 Distinguished Hospital Award for Clinical Excellence* from Healthgrades, the leading online resource for comprehensive information about physicians and hospitals. The distinction places Southcoast Health in the top 5% for clinical excellence among more than 4,500 hospitals nationwide. This is the second consecutive year that Southcoast Health has received this recognition.

The 258 recipients of the Distinguished Hospital Award for Clinical Excellence stand out among the rest for overall clinical excellence across a broad spectrum of care. During the 2017 study period (2013-2015), these hospitals showed superior performance in clinical outcomes for patients in the Medicare population across at least 21 of 32 of the most common inpatient conditions and procedures – as measured by objective clinical outcomes performance data (risk-adjusted mortality and in-hospital complications). ❖

Providence VA Medical Center earns 5-Star Quality Rating

PROVIDENCE – The Providence VA Medical Center received the highest quality rating, 5-stars, in the most recent Strategic Analytics for Improvement and Learning, or SAIL, model performance ratings by the Veterans Health Administration, on January 10.

"This achievement is the result of a sustained, systematic process improvement effort from staff throughout the medical center," said **DR. SUSAN MACKENZIE**, director of the Providence VAMC.

SAIL is a data-driven system for summarizing performance within the VHA. It assesses 27 quality measures in areas such as access to care, patient safety, clinical outcomes, readmission rates, hospital-acquired infections and overall efficiency. The most recent ratings rank the Providence VA Medical Center 16th out of 146 star-rated VA medical centers nationwide. The achievement follows other recent Providence VAMC accomplishments, including:

- The Providence VAMC was completing more than 98 percent of appointments within 30 days of the preferred date as of November 30, 2016, the most recent data available, and can now provide many Veterans with same-day access for both primary care and mental health care.
- As of December 2016, 92 percent of patients answered "satisfied" or "completely satisfied" on kiosk patient satisfaction surveys.
- The Providence VA Medical Center ranked fourth nationally in the VHA's 2016 all-employee survey results.
- In December 2015, the Providence VAMC jointly announced a neuroscience partnership with Lifespan, Brown University, the University of Rhode Island and Care New England focused on identifying the causes of and treatments for a wide-range of diseases and disorders, such as Alzheimer's disease, epilepsy, stroke, traumatic brain injury and autism. ❖

Kent awarded advanced Certification for Primary Stroke Centers from The Joint Commission

WARWICK – Kent Hospital has earned The Joint Commission's Gold Seal of Approval® and the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association's Heart-Check mark for Advanced Certification for Primary Stroke Centers. The Gold Seal of Approval® and the Heart-Check mark represent symbols of quality from their respective organizations.

Kent Hospital underwent a rigorous onsite review in November 2016. Joint Commission experts evaluated compliance with stroke-related standards and requirements, including program management, the delivery of clinical care and performance improvement. This is the fifth consecutive time Kent Hospital has received such designation since the first certification in 2008.

Established in 2003, Advanced Certification for Primary Stroke Centers is awarded for a two-year period to Joint Commission-accredited acute care hospitals. The certification was derived from the Brain Attack Coalition's "Recommendations for the Establishment of Primary Stroke Centers" and the "Revised and Updated Recommendations for the Establishment of Primary Stroke Centers." ❖



NORCAL MUTUAL®

MEDICAL PROFESSIONAL LIABILITY INSURANCE
PHYSICIANS DESERVE

Offering top-tier educational resources essential to reducing risk, providing versatile coverage solutions to safeguard your practice and serving as a staunch advocate on behalf of the medical community.

Talk to an agent/broker about NORCAL Mutual today.

NORCALMUTUAL.COM | 844.4NORCAL



On January 3, 2017 the Physician Assistant Program at Bryant University held its 3rd Annual White Coat Ceremony for the 43 members of the class of 2019. Standing in the center are, left to right, **Christopher Ferreira, PA-C**, Director of Clinical Education; **Christopher Furbee, PA-C**, Associate Program Director; **Robert Jay Amrien, PA-C**, Director of the Physician Assistant Program; **Susan Richmond, PA-C**, Director of Didactic Education.

Appointments



Debra Lasorsa, BSN, named Director of Nursing at Fatima

NORTH PROVIDENCE – **DEBRA LASORSA, BSN, RN, ONC**, has been named Director of Nursing at Our Lady of Fatima Hospital. A graduate of the University of Rhode Island, she is a member of Sigma Theta Tau, Delta Upsilon Chapter, and the National Association of Orthopedic Nursing. She is also certified in Surgical Orthopedics. Lasorsa has worked at Roger Williams Medical Center for the past 37 years. She has experience in a number of clinical settings including medical/surgical nursing, ICU, Home Care, Hospice, Intake, Bone Marrow Transplant, and Oncology. She has held leadership positions for the past 30-plus years. ❖

She is also certified in Surgical Orthopedics. Lasorsa has worked at Roger Williams Medical Center for the past 37 years. She has experience in a number of clinical settings including medical/surgical nursing, ICU, Home Care, Hospice, Intake, Bone Marrow Transplant, and Oncology. She has held leadership positions for the past 30-plus years. ❖

Keren Braithwaite, DO, joins the Southcoast Health Breast Center

DARTMOUTH, MASS. – **KEREN BRAITHWAITE, DO**, breast surgeon, has joined the Southcoast Health Breast Center as a member of the Southcoast Physicians Group.



Dr. Braithwaite received her Doctor of Osteopathic Medical Degree from Nova Southeastern University in Davie, Fla. She completed a general surgery residency at Staten Island University Hospital on Staten Island, N.Y., followed by a fellowship in Breast Surgical Oncology at the University of Miami/Jackson Memorial Hospital in Miami, Fla.

Dr. Braithwaite is a member of the Society of Surgical Oncology, the American College of Surgeons and the American Society of Breast Surgeons. She is board certified in general surgery, and fluent in Spanish.

In her new role at the Southcoast Health Breast Center, Dr. Braithwaite will work alongside Maureen Chung, MD, PhD, medical director of the breast program. ❖



MORE THAN INSURANCE.



DOES YOUR BUSINESS HAVE
COMPLIANCE CHANGES

Covered?

Not many small businesses are ready to deal with the changes to health insurance, compliance, and human resources. Whether it's finding the best deal on health insurance, assisting your company with business and HIPAA compliance, or keeping up with the most recent human resource requirements, HNI is ready to help you with the support you need to focus on what really matters – your patients.

With over 20 years of combined experience in group benefits, HNI has the expertise to advise on the most complex benefits matters, yet we are small enough to keep a personal touch.

Make sure you're covered.
Call us today 401-228-8915 or visit us
online HNIins.com

Appointments

Dr. Paul DiSilvestro named director of gynecologic oncology at W&I



PROVIDENCE – After a rigorous national search, **PAUL A. DISILVESTRO, MD**, of Exeter, has been named the director of the Program in Women's Oncology for Women & Infants Hospital of Rhode Island and Care New England Health System, and the division director for Gynecologic Oncology in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at The Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University.

Dr. DiSilvestro is a professor of obstetrics and gynecology at Brown and has been the interim director of the Program in Women's Oncology and the Division of Gynecologic Oncology since April 2016.

Dr. DiSilvestro replaces Cornelius O. "Skip" Granai III, MD, FACOG, FACS, whose efforts brought the Program in Women's Oncology into the national spotlight as an innovative center of cancer care excellence and who remains in a supportive emeritus role while continuing to see patients, train the next generation of women's health providers, and provide outreach support.

Dr. DiSilvestro serves as the director of research in the Program in Women's Oncology and the chair of the Board of Managers of the recently formed Care New England Medical Group (CNEMG). He is principal investigator for the Women & Infants Hospital site of the National Cancer Institute's cooperative research group, NRG Oncology, the NIH-sponsored cancer collaborative that includes the Gynecologic Oncology Group. Dr. DiSilvestro is currently the co-chair of the Ovarian and Breast Cancer Committees at NRG Oncology and previously served on the Cancer Prevention and Control and the Phase I Committees. In addition, he has been study chair or co-chair of multiple National Cancer Institute-sponsored Gynecologic Oncology Group trials. Dr. DiSilvestro is well-respected nationally for his clinical, teaching and research expertise. He is a general board examiner as well as a subspecialty (gynecologic oncology) board examiner for the American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology (ABOG).

A graduate of the University of Vermont College of Medicine, Dr. DiSilvestro completed a residency at Women & Infants Hospital and a fellowship in gynecologic oncology at the University of Oklahoma. ❖

Dr. Peter Hollmann named new academic director of Brown's Healthcare Leadership program

PROVIDENCE – Brown University has named **PETER HOLLMANN, MD**, as the new academic director of its Executive Master of Healthcare Leadership (EMHL) program.

Hollmann is chief medical officer for University Medicine, a Rhode Island-based academic and patient care medical group practice with more than 200 physicians in a dozen medical specialties. He helps define the strategy and direction of the organization in the delivery of health care services; performance improvement activities; and the development of clinical programs.

Hollmann is assistant clinical professor in the Department of Family Medicine in the Warren Alpert Medical School and maintains a geriatric primary care practice in East Providence, R.I.

Hollmann earned his undergraduate and medical degrees at Brown University. Since then he has gained more than 25 years of experience in medical management. He served as associate chief medical officer at Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Rhode Island, where his major duties involved practice transformation, payment methods and system/coding implementation. He also served as medical director for a long-term care hospital, skilled nursing facility and hospital-based home care company.

"We are at a critical inflection point in health care and it is imperative that we address the big questions of access, quality and cost thoughtfully and creatively," Hollman said. "Now is the time to engage more intensely with colleagues from across health care who face these challenges every day. I am very excited about taking this leadership position in Brown's Executive Master in Healthcare Leadership program and being part of the solution."

Hollmann currently serves on the American Medical Association/Specialty Society Resource-Based Relative Value Scale Update Committee, is co-chair of the AMA Digital Medicine Payment Advisory Group and is past chair of Current Procedural Terminology Editorial Panel. He is also a member of the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) Geriatrics Measures Advisory Panel. He is secretary of the board of the American Geriatrics Society (AGS), an AGS fellow and American College of Physicians fellow. He chaired the AGS Public Policy Committee, founded the AGS Practice Management Advisory Group and was a founding member of the AGS Quality Committee. Hollmann has been active in creating geriatric measures for Medicare and NCQA.

On the Care Transformation Collaborative of Rhode Island, Hollmann co-chairs the Data and Evaluation Committee of the multi-payer Patient-Centered Medical Home demonstration project. He also serves on the board of the Rhode Island Medical Society and is the representative to the American Medical Association House of Delegates.

The Executive Master of Healthcare Leadership degree program builds on Brown University's multidisciplinary strength in public health and policy, health economics and evidence-based medicine. It prepares practitioners in clinical care, hospital and system administration, insurance, the biotech and pharmaceutical industry, and from legal, consulting and patient advocacy settings to address the rapidly evolving health care environment and to build innovative, sustainable solutions to pressing challenges in their organizations and across health care. ❖



COURTESY: UNIVERSITY MEDICINE

Increase your **REVENUE**

Offices in your area are
seeing high recovery
while saving thousands
in commissions

Do you have a financial policy in place?

Having a strict policy will not only protect your office but also help the patient.

Sending monthly statements may not be enough:

Most times an office may think that sending a monthly statement can be enough, but it is important that you try to make verbal contact with your patient so you have the chance to explain the amount owed and why.

When is it the right time to get a 3rd party involved:

If your office is not having success with communicating with the patient. Collection agencies have the man power to be on the phone throughout the day while you are focusing on your day to day office needs. Keep in mind the longer you hold onto the debts, the harder it is to collect.

**Local * High Recovery * Customized Programs * Improved
Patient Retention**

COLLECTIONS WITHOUT ALIENATING YOUR PATIENTS

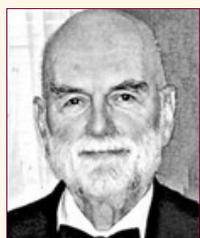


**Contact Carmella Beroth
508-553-1916**



**MAKE 2017 THE YEAR THAT YOU DECIDE TO MAKE A
FINANCIAL CHANGE TO YOUR BUSINESS**

Obituaries



RICHARD G. BERTINI, MD, July 27, 1932 –January 27, 2017, of Pawtucket and Monument Beach, MA, died of complications of vascular disease. An orthopedic surgeon who practiced medicine in Pawtucket for over forty years, he was a loving husband, dedicated family man and well known to many as kind, generous, humble and having a great sense of humor.

He is survived by his wife of 56 years, Lois D. Higgins Bertini, his children Lori D. Rolfe (Steven), Jena E. McNulty (Michael) and Richard G. Bertini Jr. (Kimberly), and many grandchildren, great-grandchildren and extended family members.

He was a member of the Rhode Island Society of Mayflower Descendants. Educated in the Pawtucket Public Schools, he went on to graduate with honors from Wesleyan University followed by Albany Medical College and had an internship and residency at Rhode Island Hospital, was a fellow of the American Academy of Orthopedic surgeons, practiced in Pawtucket at Memorial Hospital for over 40 years and was Chief of the Orthopedic Department for 19 years before retiring in 1999. Upon retirement he received the Emeriti Award from the Brown University School of Medicine. He made additional contributions to higher education as trustee of Talladega College in Alabama where he served for 14 years in multiple chairs. As past President of both the Rhode Island Medical Society and Pawtucket Medical Association, he was honored with the Dr. Charles L. Hill Award in 1996. He also served as ship's physician for the Landmark School's High school program aboard the tall ship "TeVega" for two Atlantic crossings.

He grew up in and became a leading member of the Pawtucket Congregational Church UCC. He was a choir member for more than 40 years and served as a delegate to the state conference and General Synod. Richard was a patron of the RI-UCC Haiti Task Force from its early years, with which he traveled accompanied by his wife Lois and their daughter Lori to aid in building a medical clinic and school in Port-au-Prince. He also, along with his wife, served as delegate to the US-USSR Bridges for Peace program through which he was able to deliver surplus medical supplies and equipment for victims of the Chernobyl disaster.

Richard was a tireless worker at all things he endeavored to take on. He loved his family and was consistently present to support and participate in their lives. His passion for music was a major component in his life. On his eightieth birthday his memoir "Memories, With a Sprinkling of Opinion" was published.

A memorial service followed by collation will be held at Swan Point Cemetery on Saturday February 11, 2017 at 11:00 a.m. In lieu of flowers, donations will be welcomed at Doctors Without Borders, 333 7th Avenue, 2nd Floor, New York, NY 10001 or Hope Hospice RI, 1085 N. Main Street Providence, RI 02904.

DR. VICTOR PACHECO deMEDEIROS, 91, of Gibson Road passed away on January 24th at Grace Barker Nursing Home. He was the husband of Angela (Lima) deMedeiros.

Born on March 29, 1925 in Candelaria, Madalena on Pico Island, Azores, he lived in Sao Miguel, Azores during his youth and continued his studies to obtain his medical degree as a surgeon at the University of Coimbra, Portugal. He moved to the United States in 1953.

He was the loving father of Lisa Marie Morris, Elena Marie de Medeiros and Victor A. deMedeiros and his wife Minda.

Next to his family, his greatest love was for his patients, many of whom became his life-long friends. His dedication and compassion was foremost, "medicine is my life, no phone call was too late, no visit too far." Beyond being a physician, he also found time to enjoy his family as well as the arts, music, and sports especially football, soccer and tennis.

Dr. deMedeiros did his residency at St. Luke's Hospital, New Bedford, MA; Truesdale Hospital in Fall River, MA and Memorial Hospital of Pawtucket. He was the physician for the International Ladies Garment Workers Union for 25 years as well as Grace Barker Nursing Home and the Bristol School Department. In 1963, he was one of the founding physicians of the Bristol County Medical Center where he practiced until his retirement. He served as Chief Medical Director for the Rhode Island Veterans Home and was both a medical doctor and medical educator for Brown University residents at Roger Williams Hospital. He was the physician for Luso American Soccer Association teams Bristol Sports Club, Fall River Sports, Academica, East Providence Sports.

Dr. deMedeiros was a communicant of St. Elizabeth's Church. He was a member of many organizations including the Rhode Island Medical Society and American Medical Association. He was the East Bay Chairman for the American Heart Association, American Cancer Society and Meeting Street School. He was an active member as well as past President and Treasurer of the Bristol County Lions Club. He was also the past President of Prince Henry Association of RI, RI Habitat for Humanity, and Bristol Sports Club. He was a member of Ateneu Micaelense of Fall River and a supporter of the East Bay Food Pantry.

Dr. deMedeiros was the 1969 Chief Marshall of Bristol Fourth of July Celebration and the 1980 Chief Marshall of the Bristol Tricentennial Celebration.

In lieu of flowers, donations in his memory may be made to: Friends of St. Elizabeth Food Pantry, 577 Wood Street, Bristol, RI 02809 or the Rogers Free Library, PO Box 538, Bristol, RI 02809.



Obituaries



ELIZABETH JUDD, MD, of Warwick, passed away on January 4th, 2017. Originally from Amityville, NY, Dr. Judd attended Radcliffe University and the Albert Einstein School of Medicine. She practiced in the Newport Hospital Emergency Department until her retirement, after which she volunteered at the Providence Free Clinic. In her free time, Dr. Judd was an avid knitter.

She is survived by her husband Steven Kittell and their daughter Hannah Kittell, as well as her two sisters, Penelope Sandarg and Judy Judd, and her niece Mitchell Holland.

In her memory donations may be made to Planned Parenthood.

CATHERINE E. KERR, PhD, a path-blazing brain scientist of mindfulness, tai chi, qigong, and healing, died surrounded by friends and family at home in Watertown, Massachusetts, on November 12, 2016. She was 52, and the cause was complications due to multiple myeloma, a cancer of the bone marrow whose odds she had defied for two decades.



Kerr was born in 1964 in Los Angeles, California. She graduated from Amherst College (BA 85), where she met her future husband, Jonathan Kranes, and a close circle of life-long friends. Awarded a Mellon Fellowship, she completed her American Studies dissertation on Southern liberal attitudes toward the New Deal at the Johns Hopkins University Center for the Humanities in Baltimore, Maryland (PhD 94).

It was in 1995, while teaching Social Studies at Harvard, that she was diagnosed with multiple myeloma, at the time a poorly understood disease known mostly to strike in older people. She was told she faced a median survival of five years, with limited, highly risky options for treatment. After years of humanities training, she started down a new path in science, aided by a coveted career development award from the National Institutes of Health to support retraining. Under the guidance of Ted Kaptchuk, she joined the research team at Harvard Medical School that was studying the placebo response. Under first author Sara Lazar, she contributed to important early findings in the cognitive neuroscience of meditation. In 2011, she joined the Department of Family Medicine at Brown University and was named the Director of Translational Neuroscience in the Contemplative Studies Initiative. At Brown, she created the Embodied Neuroscience lab, whose main focus was the Vitality Project, a clinical trial she designed to investigate the healing role of qigong in cancer survivors.

Recovering in recent years from a stem cell transplant, she drew on astonishing reserves of hope and focus to climb a

mountain in New Hampshire and returned to work more productive. In 2015, after delivering a widely viewed TEDx talk, she traveled to India to present pioneering work on the neuroscience of mindfulness to His Holiness the Dalai Lama at the Sera Monastery, where she was also called upon to provide basic neuroscience teaching to young monks.

In Kerr's memory, the Mind and Life Institute has created a new honor, the Catherine Kerr Award for Courageous and Compassionate Science. Those interested in donating to this award may visit www.mindandlife.org/make-a-gift/catherine-kerr-award. Those who wish to support multiple myeloma research may visit the Multiple Myeloma Research Foundation at www.themmr.org.

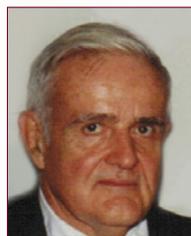
MICHELE L. LOMBARDO, MD, 42, died on January 15, 2017 in her Norfolk, VA home surrounded by family. She leaves behind her husband, Joseph M. Onofrio, and their 3-year-old son J. Murray Onofrio, parents Richard S. and Phyllis Lombardo, and a considerable number of extended family, friends, colleagues, and patients who will forever be inspired by her intellect, humor, compassion, selfless dedication and strength.



Michele grew up in Higganum, CT and graduated from Simmons College ('96) and Boston University School of Medicine ('04). She completed residencies in general surgery ('09) and pediatric surgery ('11) at Brown University. Dr. Lombardo practiced at Children's Hospital of The King's Daughters (CHKD) and Nuss Center for Chest Wall Reconstruction in Norfolk until January 9, 2017.

In lieu of flowers, please consider donating to Children's Hospital of The King's Daughters at <https://www.chkd.org/Support-Us/Donate/>

 **DR. JOHN R. PAYNE**, 87, passed away January 7, 2017 with his family by his side. He was the beloved husband of Natalie H. (Charboneau) Payne.



Dr. Payne lived in Pascoag since 1970 and was a US Navy veteran assigned to the Marine Corp as a medical doctor. He worked at the Providence VA Medical Center for 35 years before retiring in 1992. He received his pre-med education from Hamilton College and received his Doctorate from the Albany Medical College.

He was a parishioner of St. Joseph Church in Pascoag and was a member of the church choir. In addition to his wife of 48 years, he was the father of Matthew J. Payne of Dobbs Ferry, NY, and Allison J. Payne of Pascoag. He was the grandfather of Jacob R. Payne and father-in-law of Jessica Bryan. He was the brother of the late Dr. Guy Payne and Frederick Payne. He is also survived by many nieces and nephews.