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Recognition

Dr. Peter DeBlasio, Jr. receives 2017 Distinguished Service Award at Fatima

DR. PETER DEBLASIO, JR., an ophthalmologist who has been on staff at Our Lady of Fatima Hospital for more than 35 years, was presented with the 2017 Distinguished Service Award for his many contributions at the annual CharterCARE Health Partners' Medical Staff physician reception on December 11.

Each year, the medical staff at Fatima Hospital recognizes physicians who have served with distinction for more than 20 years.

Dr. DeBlasio has served as Chief of Ophthalmology at Fatima and Director of the Ophthalmic Diabetes Clinic since 1990. He has served on numerous boards and committees at Fatima including service as president of the medical staff.

Dr. DeBlasio completed a Glaucoma Fellowship from Harvard Medical School/Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary.



From left, at the recognition event, are John Holiver, CEO, CharterCARE Health Care; Dr. Joseph Mazza, medical staff president; Dr. Peter DeBlasio; and David Kobis, President of Fatima Hospital.

He completed his residency in Ophthalmology at Rhode Island Hospital. Dr. DeBlasio received his medical degree from the University of Bologna Faculty of Medicine and Surgery and completed his clinical training at the Brown University

Program in Medicine.

Dr. DeBlasio is a member of several professional societies and is past president of the Rhode Island Society of Eye Physicians and Surgeons. ♦

Dr. Ira Singer and Dr. Jody Meharg receive 2017 Distinguished Service Award at physician reception

Each year, the medical staff at Roger Williams Medical Center recognizes physicians who have served with distinction for more than 20 years. **DR. IRA SINGER** and **DR. JOSEPH "JODY" MEHARG** were presented with the 2017 Distinguished Service Award for their many contributions at the annual CharterCARE Health Partners' Medical Staff physician reception on December 11, 2017.

Dr. Singer is a board-certified orthopedic surgeon with Orthopaedic Associates, Inc. Dr. Meharg is the Director of the Intensive Care Unit at Roger Williams Medical Center.

Dr. Singer earned his medical degree from George Washington University and went on to serve as Chief Resident in Orthopaedics at Massachusetts General Hospital. He completed a Reconstructive Knee and Arthroscopic Surgery Fellowship at Brigham & Women's Hospital. He has been on staff at Roger Williams since 1996.

Dr. Meharg received his medical degree from Albany Medical College, where he also completed his residency. He completed his fellowship in Pulmonary/Critical Care Medicine through Brown University. He has been on staff at Roger Williams since 1991 and has been named "Teacher of the Year" 13 times in the Internal Medicine Residency Teaching Program at Roger Williams. ♦



Pictured here at the event (from left to right) are: John Holiver, CEO, CharterCARE; Dr. Singer; medical staff president Dr. Andrea Doyle; Dr. Meharg; and Demetra Ouellette, Roger Williams Medical Center President.

Recognition

Visiting Nurse of HopeHealth named as a Top Agency of the 2017 ABILITY/HomeCare Elite

Visiting Nurse of HopeHealth today announced that it has been named a Top Agency of the 2017 HomeCare Elite®, a recognition of the top-performing home health agencies in the United States. For 12 years, HomeCare Elite has annually identified the top 25 percent of Medicare-certified agencies and highlighted the top 100 and top 500 agencies overall.

The ranking is developed by ABILITY® Network, a leading information technology company helping providers and payers simplify the administrative and clinical complexities of health-care; and sponsored by DecisionHealth, publisher of *Home Health Line* and the *Complete Home Health ICD-10-CM Diagnosis Coding Manual*.

"We are proud of the exceptional tradition of quality care at Visiting Nurse of HopeHealth," said **DIANA FRANCHITTO**, CEO & president of HopeHealth. "The heart of what we do every day is providing care that focuses on what is best for the patients and providing support for their families. We provide quality care to patients where they most want to be, at home."

HomeCare Elite agencies are determined by an analysis of performance measures in quality outcomes, best practices implementation, patient experience (HHCAHPS), quality improvement and consistency, and financial health. In order to be considered, an agency must be Medicare-certified and have data for at least three outcomes in Home Health Compare. ❖

Rhode Island Hospital operating room nurses earn Clinical Excellence Award

National AORN CORE award recognizes continuous improvement, evidence-based practice; OR nurse onboarding and education critical to success

PROVIDENCE – Rhode Island Hospital's operating room nursing staff was recently recognized by the Association of periOperative Registered Nurses (AORN) with a "Committed to OR Excellence Award" (CORE), receiving the honor's gold-level designation. According to AORN, "The AORN CORE Award™ recognizes the individual perioperative unit(s) that distinguishes themselves by improving every aspect of perioperative patient care."

Gold-level designation indicates evidence of excellent and sustained unit performance and patient outcomes. One award is granted nationally each year, and the designation is valid for three years.

The national award is the result of careful review by AORN of Rhode Island Hospital's application, a process that requires self-evaluation and extensive description of the perioperative unit's practices in six areas, including:

- Leadership structures and systems
- Appropriate staffing and staff engagement
- Effective communication
- Knowledge management, learning and development
- Evidence-based practice and processes
- Outcome measurement

One notable element to Rhode Island Hospital, which boosted performance in several of these areas, is the hospital's onboarding program developed to suit the individual needs of new staff, from novice nurses to experienced RNs changing their area of practice.

The program also pairs long-time OR nurses with all medical students, physician assistant students and nurse practitioner students to ensure consistent, aseptic practice and the highest quality of care. The Rhode Island Hospital OR is also hoping to partner with local colleges to give nursing students OR experience in addition to the usual practicum on medical and surgical floors.

"Our whole education plan is based on national safety goals," says **JOYCE SMITH, RN, BSN, MBA**, education coordinator for perioperative services at Rhode Island Hospital. "We try to be unique and novel with educational delivery, which in turn ensures that every patient gets the highest quality and safest clinical care possible."

Rhode Island Hospital scored a perfect 450 score in the outcome measurement section of the AORN review, which is exceedingly rare.

"Rhode Island Hospital undoubtedly boasts some of the best nursing care in the state," said **BARBARA RILEY, DNP**, senior vice president and chief nursing officer for Rhode Island Hospital. "Designations like this further demonstrate that our nurses, and the strength of the nurse leadership and education on our units, are among the best in the country."

"Across the country, hospital facilities continuously strive to provide consistent, high quality patient care and it is important they be recognized for their achievement," said **LINDA GROAH, MSN, RN, CNOR, NEA-BC, FAAN**, Executive Director/CEO of AORN. "The CORE Award is a testament to Rhode Island Hospital's clinical experience and their commitment to their patients and staff." ❖

Recognition

South County Hospital receives three 2018 Women's Choice Awards

South County Hospital was recently notified that it earned three Women's Choice Awards for 2018: America's Best Hospitals for Obstetrics, America's Best Hospitals for Patient Safety and America's Best Stroke Centers. Understanding that women in the United States make approximately 80 percent of the healthcare decisions for their families, the Women's Choice Award was designed to empower every woman to make smarter healthcare choices by providing publicly available reporting on the best hospitals. Award recipients are based, in part, on survey results that identify women's healthcare preferences.

Earning the Women's Choice Award for America's Best Hospitals for Obstetrics ranks South County Hospital in the top 17 percent of the 2,720 hospitals in the country that offer obstetrical services. South County Hospital has received the Women's Choice Award for Obstetrics

each year since 2015.

The America's Best Hospitals for Patient Safety recognizes South County Hospital's safe surgery practices and low rates of complications and infections, based on data reported on 11 factors. The Hospital is ranked in the top 16 percent of 3,179 hospitals in the country for patient safety.

The award for America's Best Stroke Centers recognizes South County Hospital for meeting high standards for stroke care as determined by the Joint Commission, as well as meeting or exceeding numerous performance measures set by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. The Joint Commission is an independent, not-for-profit organization whose accreditation and certification is recognized nationwide as a symbol of quality.

In addition to the standards that hospitals must meet or exceed to qualify for Women's Choice Awards, the organization identifies hospitals that use an

Inpatient Safe Surgery Checklist, reports low rates of early elective deliveries (one percent or less) and those that have a Baby Friendly USA designation as determined by World Health Organization (WHO) and United Nations Children Fund (UNICEF).

In 2017, South County Hospital was the only hospital in the northeast to receive two five star ratings from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid – for Hospital Quality and Patient Experience – and one of only 19 hospitals in the country to receive the two top ratings.

"It is a testament to our ongoing commitment to the families within our community. We could not have achieved this exceptional recognition without the hard work and support from each of our employees," said **LOUIS R. GIANCOLA**, president and CEO of South County Health. "Every day they demonstrate an ongoing commitment to our patients and to our community." ❖



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Grants

W&I awards grants from Constance A. Howes Women's Health Innovation Research Fund

Women & Infants Hospital has awarded three approximately \$25,000 grants from the Constance A. Howes Women's Health Innovation Research Fund. The research fund, which has raised more than \$400,000, was established in 2014 with contributions from more than 150 donors to honor former hospital president Constance A. Howes and to support research studies that advance women's health and gender-based research.

Awardees are Women & Infants researchers **VALERY DANILACK, MPH, PhD**, research associate in the Division of Research, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology; **PAUL DISILVESTRO, MD**,

director of the Division of Gynecologic Oncology in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology; and **NIHARIKA MEHTA, MD**, obstetric internist in the Center for Obstetric and Consultative Medicine.

The team from Dr. Danilack's proposal, "A Qualitative Study of Experiences and Preferences with Labor Induction," will conduct qualitative interviews of patients and providers to elucidate their experiences and preferences in regard to the labor induction process.

Dr. DiSilvestro's grant will enable him to continue his work, "miRNA Biomarkers for Early Detection of Ovarian

Cancer." MicroRNAs (miRNAs) represent a promising breakthrough in both early detection and targeted treatment in epithelial ovarian cancer, the leading cause of mortality among all gynecologic malignancies.

Dr. Mehta will work with co-primary investigator **ISABELLE MALHAME, MD**, obstetric medicine fellow. Their project, "A Risk Assessment Tool for Cardiovascular Severe Maternal Morbidity," aims to develop a risk assessment tool that will allow clinicians to identify those women at highest risk of developing cardiovascular severe maternal morbidity during pregnancy and after delivery. ❖



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Certifications



Dr. Renee Eger certified as menopause practitioner

RENEE R. EGER, MD, FACOG, medical director of the Obstetrics and Gynecology Care Center (OGCC) and the

Menopause Program at Women & Infants Hospital, has passed the examination necessary to become a North American Menopause Society (NAMS) Certified Menopause Practitioner (NCMP).

Women & Infants introduced its Menopause Program in 2013 with a multidisciplinary team of providers that includes obstetrician/gynecologists, internal medicine providers, cardiologists, behavioral health specialists, and endocrinologists.

Dr. Eger's interests include minimally invasive gynecologic procedures, evaluation of abnormal Pap smears, and abnormal bleeding, contraceptive services, adolescent gynecologic care, and routine gynecologic care. In 2013, she was certified by the Center of Excellence in Minimally Invasive Gynecology. ❖

Women & Infants Hospital's Emergency Department achieves Level 3 certification

In response to Governor Gina Raimondo's Executive Order to establish a statewide task force to address the opioid epidemic, Women & Infants' Emergency Department partnered with other Care New England facilities and the Rhode Island Department of Health (RIDOH) to ensure the needs of this specialized patient population are met.

At the Governor's Task Force Meeting held recently, RIDOH and the Rhode Island Department of Behavioral Healthcare, Developmental Disabilities, and Hospitals



Tracy Casala, RN, at left, nurse manager of emergency room/triage at Women & Infants; Roxanne Vrees, MD, medical director of emergency obstetrics and gynecology at Women & Infants; and Nicole Alexander-Scott, MD, MPH, director, Rhode Island Department of Health.

(BHDDH) presented Women & Infants with its Level 3 Certification as part of the Levels of Care for Rhode Island Emergency Departments and Hospitals for Treating Overdose and Opioid Use Disorder.

"Many have patients, friends, family, and even colleagues who have been personally affected by addiction and opioid use disorder. While accidental drug overdose has been a growing problem across the nation, Rhode Island has been one of the most severely impacted states in recent years," said **ROXANNE VREES, MD**, medical director of emergency obstetrics and gynecology at Women & Infants Hospital and assistant professor of obstetrics and gynecology at The Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University. "With this designation, our team hopes to continue to do our part in ending the opioid epidemic and working to make a positive impact on the lives of so many who would otherwise be lost."

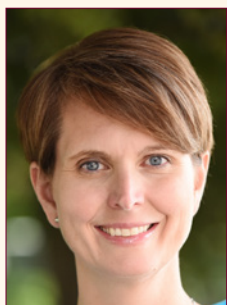
Women & Infants' plan has four fundamental areas focusing on treatment, overdose rescue, prevention, and recovery. The team developed organizational policies, clinical protocols, and institutional infrastructure to ensure that patients are managed appropriately.

This designation formalizes the hospital's commitment to this health care problem and requires that the hospital maintain standard protocols, capacity, and commitment to the following:

- Follow the discharge planning standards as stated in current law.
- Administer standardized substance use disorder screening for all patients.
- Educate all patients who are prescribed opioids on safe storage and disposal.
- Dispense naloxone for patients who are at risk, according to a clear protocol.
- Offer peer recovery support services in the Emergency Department.
- Provide active referral to appropriate community provider(s).
- Comply with requirement to report overdoses within 48 hours to RIDOH.
- Perform laboratory drug screening that includes fentanyl on patients who overdose. ❖

Appointments

Kristen Matteson, MD, named Ob/Gyn Director of Division of Research



KRISTEN A. MATTESON, MD, MPH, of Barrington, has been named director of the Division of Research for the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at The Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University and Women & Infants Hospital. Dr. Matteson, who is also an associate professor of obstetrics and gynecology, is recognized nationally for her expertise in the field of abnormal uterine bleeding and clinical research methods.

Dr. Matteson was part of the team to design and lead the department's Resident Research Curriculum and she revitalized the Women's Health Fellows Workshop in Clinical Research Design. Dr. Matteson serves as the research director for the NIH-funded Brown/Women & Infants Hospital Women's Reproductive Health Research (WRHR) scholars program, and she directs a Brown-wide research career development seminar series. She continues to be instrumental in optimizing resources for conducting research and submitting grant proposals in the department.

Dr. Matteson's research, national presentations, and publications focus on abnormal uterine bleeding, evidence-based medicine in gynecology, and research methods. Dr. Matteson is conducting a randomized clinical trial funded by the NICHD comparing two non-surgical treatments for heavy menstrual bleeding. Dr. Matteson works with the International Federation of Gynecology and Obstetrics Menstrual Disorders Committee and the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG). She has served on the Society of Gynecologic Surgeons Systematic Review Group, the editorial board of *The Obstetrician and Gynecologist*, and the ACOG PROLOG task force for Patient Management in the Office. In addition to several other leadership roles, Dr. Matteson is currently the chair of the ACOG Committee on Gynecologic Practice.

In addition to her research leadership, Dr. Matteson practices both obstetrics and gynecology and supervises residents and medical students in Women & Infants' Obstetrics and Gynecology Care Center (OGCC), on the labor floor, on the inpatient gynecology service, and in the operating room. She has been consistently recognized for her teaching and has been awarded outstanding teacher of the year awards since 2006. Dr. Matteson has been recognized with the national CREOG (Council on Residency Education in Obstetrics and Gynecology) Excellence in Teaching Award and continues to be sought after as an advisor and mentor for residents, medical students, and faculty. ♦

Erica Hardy, MD, named director of Women's Infectious Disease Consult Service at W&I

ERICA HARDY, MD, MMSc, of Pawtucket, has been named director of the Women's Infectious Disease Consult Service at Women & Infants Hospital.

A collaborative service of the hospital's Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology and the Department of Medicine, as well as the Integrated Program for High-Risk Pregnancy, this service provides inpatient infectious disease consultation to all providers at Women & Infants Hospital in both obstetrics and gynecology and their respective subspecialties. Outpatient consultations are available to referring providers from throughout southern New England.

Dr. Hardy completed a residency in medicine and pediatrics at Brown University in the Rhode Island Hospital/Hasbro Children's Hospital program. She went on to complete an infectious disease fellowship at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center in Boston. During fellowship, she completed a master's of medical science at Harvard Medical School. In addition, she holds a master's degree in philosophy with a concentration in medical ethics from the University of Maryland.

Dr. Hardy's clinical and research interests include infectious disease issues in women, including congenital infection, complex sexually transmitted infections, as well as the medical care and follow-up of survivors of sexual assault. She has grant funding from the Center for AIDS Research to explore the female genital tract immunology after sexual assault, as well as vaginal microbiome in women initiating long-acting contraception.

Dr. Hardy is the co-director of the Women & Infants Hospital Antimicrobial Stewardship Committee. She sees inpatient and outpatient infectious disease consults and is involved in medical education. She has been presented with several teaching awards from medical students while on their ob/gyn and obstetric medicine rotation, and from ob/gyn residents. ♦



Dr. Wendy Stern named President-elect of the Board of Directors for the New England Otolaryngological Society

NEW BEDFORD – Southcoast Health announced recently that **DR. WENDY STERN** has been selected to serve as President-elect of the Board of Directors for the New England Otolaryngological Society (NEOS).

Dr. Stern has served as a councilor on the Board of Trustees for two years. This new appointment will be for three years; with Dr. Stern moving from President-elect in 2018 to President in 2019, and finally to Immediate Past President in 2020.

"I am excited to become the President of this illustrative organization that is dedicated to the advancement of the science and practice of otolaryngology," said Dr. Stern. "It is pleasure to serve fellow otolaryngologists and otolaryngology residents that practice and train in New England." ♦



Appointments

Joseph Brady, MD, joins South County Health medical staff

South County Health welcomed **JOSEPH BRADY, MD**, to its medical staff. During his 23 years as a general surgeon, Dr. Brady worked in private practice and was a member of the surgical staff at Kent Hospital in Warwick. The board-certified physician brings extensive experience to South County Health including expertise in procedures such as routine and complex hernia repair, cholecystectomies, colon procedures, biopsies, and other surgical expertise.

Dr. Brady developed a program to use robotic technology in general surgery and was the first surgeon in Rhode Island to perform a single-site cholecystectomy using robotics. His experience includes open, laparoscopic and robotic colectomy.

He earned his medical degree and completed his residency in general surgery at Hahnemann University in his hometown of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Dr. Brady is part of the surgical team at South County Surgery, Wakefield, RI. ❖



Jason Boulware, DO, named site director of Emergency Medicine at RWMC

JASON BOULWARE, DO, has been named site director of Emergency Medicine at Roger Williams Medical Center. Dr. Boulware, who received his degree as a Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine from the New York College

of Osteopathic Medicine, has practiced in the Emergency Departments of both CharterCARE-affiliated hospitals – Roger Williams and Fatima Hospital – since 2012. He has also more recently practiced in the Emergency Department of the VA Medical Center in Providence.

Dr. Boulware completed his residency in Emergency Medicine at St. Barnabas Hospital and Regional Trauma Center, where he served as chief resident.

Dr. Boulware holds memberships or is certified by a number of professional organizations including the American Osteopathic Board of Emergency Medicine, American College of Osteopathic Emergency Physicians, American Osteopathic Association, and the American College of Emergency Physicians. ❖



URI names Mary Leveillee, PhD, Associate Dean of the College of Nursing

The University of Rhode Island has appointed **MARY LEVEILLEE, PhD** to the position of associate dean of the College of Nursing.

Leveillee joined the College's faculty full time in 2000, teaching undergraduate psychiatric and mental health nursing in lecture and clinical settings. Leveillee's research focuses mainly on women's issues, eating disorders and client-nurse relationships, all areas where she worked extensively in both inpatient and outpatient psychiatric settings.

Leveillee was a staff nurse at Butler Hospital in 1987. After finishing her master's degree in nursing, she became an outpatient therapist at the hospital and eventually assumed the role of coordinator of the Eating Disorder Program. In 2014 she returned to Butler Hospital full time and became senior vice president and chief nursing officer, serving in that position until 2017.

Leveillee holds Adult Psychiatric and Mental Health Clinical Nurse Specialist Board Certification from the American Nurses Credentialing Center.

She earned her PhD and master's degrees in nursing from URI in 2012 and 1991. ❖

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Obituaries



KWANG WON AHN, MD, 84, of Providence passed away on January 7, 2017 at home. He was the husband of Ihn Bang (Hong) Ahn. He was a retired 3rd generation physician, having specialized in internal medicine and oncology. Dr. Ahn graduated at the top of his medical school class at Seoul National University and then spent several years in Uganda with his family as a local physician delivering hundreds of babies, performing surgery and caring for all walks of life. He returned to Seoul and then emigrated to Providence where he completed another residency and fellowship at Brown University. After his chief resident year, he joined a well-established practice in Providence and over the course of the next 40 years cared for citizens of RI from all walks of life. He was a Clinical Assistant Professor of Internal Medicine in the Department of Medicine at Brown University and served as a team doctor for the Brown football team for several years. Dr. Ahn was a "living legend" at Roger Williams Hospital upon retirement. He was an avid golfer and fan of the Patriots, Celtics, Red Sox and Bruins.

Dr. Ahn was the loving father of Sung Eun Ahn of Coto de Caza, CA, and Min Shick Ahn, MD, of Hopkinton, MA. He was the beloved grandfather of Nicholas Ahn, Harrison Ahn, Coleman Ahn and Nathalie Ahn.

In lieu of flowers, donations in his memory to the Alzheimer's Association, www.alz.org, would be appreciated. ❖

JOSEPH CIABATTONI, PhD, MD, 77, of Saunderstown, passed away at home on January 25, 2018 after a courageous battle with pancreatic cancer. He was the beloved husband of Susan (Diflippantonio) Ciabattone.

In addition to his wife, Susan, he is survived by his loving son, Joseph C. Ciabattone, and his wife, Christine, of Tiverton.

Dr. Ciabattone received his PhD from MIT, in 1965. Dr. Ciabattone was a Professor of Organic Chemistry at Brown University, from 1965–1973. During this period, he was awarded a Senior Fulbright-Hays Scholarship and attended the University of Padova in Italy. Dr. Ciabattone, next attended Yale University, 1973–76, where he received his MD degree. He completed his residency at Rhode Island Hospital and was a practicing physician for over 30 years.

Dr. Ciabattone was an avid fisherman, and enjoyed gardening and cooking. He was known for his famous eggplant meatballs and pasta sauce. Dr. Ciabattone was a communicant, greeter and member of the Knights of Columbus of St Mark Church, Jamestown and a communicant of St. Thomas More Parish, Narragansett. He was an active volunteer of the Jamestown Community Farm. This kind, generous man will be deeply missed by his family and friends.

Memorial contributions may be made to: Tomorrow Fund, RI Hospital Campus, 593 Eddy St, Providence, RI 02903. ❖



MARTIN E. FELDER, MD, passed away on December 31, 2017, in Carlsbad, California. He was born and raised in Fall River, Massachusetts. He graduated from Brown University in 1952, and from Tufts University medical school in 1956. Dr. Felder entered an internship and residency program at Ohio State University, and during that time also

joined the U.S. Public Health Service, completing his service as a lieutenant-commander.

Dr. Felder started his private practice in Providence in 1963 and became instrumental in the development of Brown University's medical school. When he retired from the medical school in 2003, the university honored him as an Emeritus Professor for his dedication to teaching. He served as chief of general surgery at the Miriam Hospital, and was a member of numerous medical societies, including the New England Surgical Society.

He was an avid golfer, a Silver Life Master in duplicate bridge, and collected and was a connoisseur of fine wines.

He is survived by his wife, Velma Felder of Carlsbad, his sons Mark Felder of Laveen, Arizona; Lawrence Felder of Scottsdale, and four grandchildren.

As was his wish, any donations in Dr. Felder's memory may be made to the public library of one's choice. ❖

PERRY GARBER, MD, passed away on January 23, 2018.

Dr. Garber was born on June 3, 1935 in Providence to the late Louis and Carrie Garber of Providence and was an extraordinary individual. He put himself through Providence College and the University of Cincinnati College of Medicine, and established his own medical practice in Cranston. He improved the lives of his many patients for over 50 years and was affiliated with the Roger Williams Medical Center in Providence.

Husband of the late Sharon A. Garber for 51 years, he is survived by his daughter and son-in-law, Stacy and Adam Bozek of Rye, NY. He was the father of the late Jolie Savdie and the brother of the late Dr. Martin Garber. Also surviving him are cherished granddaughters Katherine and Abby Bozek of Rye, NY, sister-in-law Molly Garber of Cranston, brother-in-law Joel Licker of Cranston, son-in-law Marc Savdie of Miami, Florida, and dear nieces and nephews.

He loved traveling throughout the world with Sharon, especially to exotic, off-the-beaten-path locations, and was conversant in over ten languages. He loved meeting people from diverse cultures and was extraordinarily knowledgeable about world history.

Donations in his memory can be made to the RI Community Food Bank, www.rifoodbank.org, 200 Niantic Avenue, Providence, RI 02907. ❖



DR. KENNETH LAMBERT died suddenly on December 23 of cardiac arrest. He was 79 years old.

Kenneth Lawrence Lambert was born in Kansas City in 1938. His mother, as a 10-year-old, had come to America from Belgium. His adored grandfather was a Flemish coal miner who, at the beginning of WWI, was imprisoned by the Germans for hoarding a few potatoes.

Sports were his ticket to a scholarship at the University of Missouri where, as a linebacker, he played for Dan Devine in Mizzou's Orange Bowl years.

After completing a residency in Orthopedic Surgery at MU in 1972, he was awarded a fellowship by the Swiss AO Foundation. During the year in Switzerland, he fell in love with skiing and moved to Jackson Hole, WY.

For more than 25 years, Ken patched up or reconstructed everyone he could. His goal was to send them back into action. Nominated by surgical peers, he was listed for years in The Best Doctors in America. His patients came from all over the country. Life was full. He skied with the incomparable JH Ski Patrol, he kayaked, and he climbed. He rarely saw a risk that he didn't want to take. He pioneered the repair of the ACL ligament of the knee. He was a US Ski Team doctor and taught at AO trauma courses stateside and in Europe. He was a Professor of Orthopedic Surgery at the University of Missouri, KC and a guest professor at Baltimore Shock Trauma. He won residents' awards for Best Teacher. He ran a trauma fellowship program from Jackson. He wrote articles, contributed to books, lectured, performed operations for surgical teaching videos and served as an editor for The Journal of Orthopedic Trauma.

In 2001, Ken and Sandra moved to Providence, RI to be closer to their daughter Christine – a resident in Psychiatry at Brown – and her young children. There he worked as a consultant to companies developing biomaterials for orthopedic trauma. He was an Adjunct Professor of Engineering at Brown, advising biomedical post docs. He was a co-founder and board member of Nanova Biomaterials.

He volunteered at the Rhode Island Free Clinic, treating patients right until the end. He had a great and generous heart.

He leaves behind Sandra, his wife of 53 years; his daughter, Christine Rayner, MD, and her wife, Sarah Kincaid; Sarah's daughter, Emerson; and his adored grandchildren, Alice and Oliver Rayner. They had him when they needed him most.

No date for a memorial has been set. If you are inclined to send a gift in his memory, please consider The Rhode Island Free Clinic, 655 Broad St., Providence, RI 02907. ♦



DR. SRECKO J. POGACAR, 89, of Cranston, died on Saturday, December 30, 2017 at Briarcliff Gardens in Johnston. He is survived by his wife of 48 years, Aida Kessimian Pogacar, DMD, his sister Marusa Pogacar Solar of Ljubljana, Slovenia, his two sons, Andre Pogacar of New York City and Dr. Peter Pogacar of East Greenwich, four grandchildren, as well as numerous nieces and nephews.

Dr. Pogacar was a neurologist, neuropathologist and psychiatrist who was the Chief of Psychiatric Services at Kent County Memorial Hospital from 1979-1988 and again from 1989-1992. He also maintained a private practice on Post Road in East

Greenwich and on Sockanosset Cross Road in Cranston before retiring in 2016.

He was born in 1928 in Ljubljana, Slovenia and emigrated to the U.S. in 1965. He also held teaching positions at several medical schools, including Harvard and Brown Universities.

His funeral will be private. In lieu of flowers, donations to Kent Hospital Psychiatric Care Unit, 455 Toll Gate Rd., Warwick, RI 02886 would be appreciated. ♦

ANTHONY BRUCE SELMAN, DO, died January 2 at his home in East Greenwich, RI. He was 36 years old.



He is survived by his beloved wife Dana Goodfriend; her loving parents Harry and Betsy Goodfriend; sister-in-law Claire Goodfriend; his parents Bruce and Lourdes Selman of Bradenton, FL and brother Christopher and sister Caroline.

Dr. Selman was board certified in internal medicine and was a hospitalist with South County Hospital in Wakefield, RI, and prior to that Frye Medical Center in Hickory, North Carolina. Anthony was a loving husband and a kind and caring physician. A selfless person, he was brilliantly funny, smart and humble. He was also a terrific cook. You could taste the love in the meals he prepared. He will be missed by his patients and all who knew him as well as his loyal dogs Rufus and Lilly. ♦



JAMES B. SOUTHARD, III, MD, 75, died January 21, 2018 at Miriam Hospital, Providence. He was the beloved husband of Jean M. (Claus) Southard.

Dr. Southard was a graduate of Taft Academy, Watertown, Connecticut, and Boston University, where he earned a Nursing Degree and Doctorate of Medicine. Upon graduation, he became an anesthesiologist at several hospitals, including in Connecticut at Hartford Hospital and Charlotte Hungerford Hospital, and in Rhode Island at the former Lying-In Hospital, Notre Dame Hospital, Roger Williams Medical Center, and Our Lady of Fatima Hospital, before retiring.

A U.S. Army veteran, he served during the Vietnam War as an operating room technician, stationed in Würzburg, Germany.

He was a member of the Lincoln Council, Knights of Columbus, the American Medical Association and the Rhode Island Anesthesia Association. He enjoyed hockey, regularly playing in men's leagues at the Smithfield Municipal Ice Rink.

Besides his wife, he is survived by one daughter, Sharon Southard of Boston, Massachusetts; three sons, Matthew Southard (Rebecca) and Nathaniel Southard (Carrie), both of Northfield, Connecticut, and James P. Southard of Boston, Massachusetts; two step-daughters, Tamara A. DiRobbio (David MacDonald) of Albion, and Alicia J. Sullivan (Michael) of Woonsocket; two step-sons, Christopher C. DiRobbio (Sheila) of Cumberland, and Michael J. DiRobbio (Amanda) of Framingham, Massachusetts; five grandchildren, Elizabeth, Benjamin, Hayden, Avery and Riley; and three step-grandchildren.

In lieu of flowers, contributions in his memory to the ALS Association - Rhode Island Chapter, 2374 Post Rd #103, Warwick, RI 02886, or to the Alzheimer's Association - Rhode Island Chapter, 245 Waterman St #306, Providence, RI 02906 would be appreciated. ♦

