

carenews

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“You bring your hands, you extend a warm human touch, you exert yourselves to stock, stack, clean, carry and skillfully handle any number of bedside, front office or back room duties. You bring your hearts, you share in the joy of childbirth and cancer remission, you cry with patients and families as they grapple with life’s hardships and transitions.”

Good day!

In this issue:



Last week, at Care New England’s 2015 Employee Recognition Luncheon, I told a story about my first day of my first job in health care. I was 16-year-old orderly, and my assignment was to monitor the health of an elderly gentleman in failing health. It was my job to report back to the head nurse if he had passed away. The nurse did not want to have his very large and very attentive family walk into his room and find him deceased. Of course, I had never seen anyone die at all, so this was quite the experience! So, I was on watch. I closely observed his breathing, it became shallower and slower—and then stopped. That’s it. I ran to the nurses’ station to report that our patient had died. The head nurse, with stethoscope in hand, briskly headed to the room with me not far behind. Lo and behold, the patient was breathing again. Don’t only check the respirations, said my supervisor, check the pulse too.

I was again left alone with the patient. This time, as the breathing stopped, I waited, no breathing. I took the pulse, no pulse. I waited some more and checked again, no breathing, no pulse. This time I was sure. He was dead. Just as I about to head out and report to my supervisor, a large group of his family headed into the room. How is he doing today, one of them asked? After a long pause where no words would come out of my mouth, I brilliantly said “better,” where upon one of his daughters said, “yes, he does look better today.” I quickly exited around them and made my way to the nurses’ station. It wasn’t very much later, after the nurse broke the sad news, that I heard the wails and cries of his family trailing from that end of corridor where I would not venture for the rest of the shift. That was quite a first day in health care!

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As I told folks gathered at our luncheon, after that fateful start, I went on to work most every job in our industry, from orderly, to dietary worker, from radiology tech, to manager, from finance and operations, to CEO. In all of these positions, I came to understand what people—and all of you—bring to this work each day. You bring your minds, you dedicate yourselves to lifelong learning and to continuous improvement in your skills and training. You bring your hands, you extend a warm human touch, you exert yourselves to stock, stack, clean, carry and skillfully handle any number of bedside, front office or back room duties. You bring your hearts, you share in the joy of childbirth and cancer remission, you cry with patients and families as they grapple with life's hardships and transitions. And, beyond the obvious like a paycheck and a good work environment, what do all of you want in return? Appreciation. I hear it time and again, just a simple thank you.

So, in the shadows of Hospital Week and our different employee recognition observances at our operating units, let me say it one more time. Thank you, thank you, thank you. You are one amazing group of people!

One of our amazing group of people was singled out at our corporate services employee celebration as CNE's Most Valuable Player. This MVP honor is awarded to individuals who demonstrate exceptional personal performance and, in the eyes of others, exemplify our values of customer service, teamwork, respect, courtesy, positive attitude, attendance and reliability. It was my distinct honor to name Malinda Cabral of CNE's Managed Care Contracting Department as our 2015 Care New England Most Valuable Player. Here's what some of her nominators had to say about her contribution to her department and our system.



"She is the glue that holds our team together, working hard to meet the needs of our department and everyone she works with."

"She has proven herself to be consistently professional and kind and can be depended upon to complete tasks in a timely fashion."

"She exemplifies accountability, caring and teamwork. She always operates calmly and cheerfully in what can often be a fast-paced and stressful environment."

"She is a pleasure to work with and makes a valuable contribution to the success of Care New England and its reputation in the community. She is certainly an MVP."

Please join me in congratulating Malinda on this well-deserved honor and in recognizing employee excellence!



But, let's not limit ourselves to one week of celebration. Let's pay tribute to exceptional performance year round. If there are outstanding examples of Accountability, Caring and Teamwork, please let's hear it. Send them to our ACT values section of **carenet** (<http://carenet/carenet/ACTvalues/interACT.cfm>).

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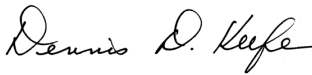
Also, don't forget that we are heading into the home stretch of our Southern New England Heart Walk to benefit the American Heart Association. I am pleased to announce the winner of our raffle for the New Leaf gift certificate is Denise Roncarati of Women & Infants Hospital. Congratulations and thank you for signing up to lead a team!

We will be celebrating Inspired Living Inspired Giving Day on May 20th. Watch a video message from me at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A9qhJQsVX3c> about my motivation in walking to support this important cause. It is my hope that we can all come together on this one day to talk about what inspires us, to not only give back in our communities, but why we choose to lead a healthier life. I hope that by creating these conversations that we can all be inspired to also give on this day where I will be personally matching up to \$5,000 of your giving! What an impact we can make for the American Heart Association's Heart Walk if all of us could give at least \$1 on May 20th.

For the week of Inspired Living Inspired Giving Day, your inspired gift of \$50—or fundraising \$50 new dollars—will enter you into a drawing to win a Fitbit Flex! You can give a gift by going to the Care New England Fundraising Page at <http://bit.ly/1EebO1W> and choose to give to our organization, a team or a specific walker. You can also sign up to be a walker on any team and give your personal gift. If you are a registered walker, sign in to your Heart Walk website and choose to give a gift from your My HQ page. For any questions, please contact Amanda at Amanda.Komorek@heart.org or (401) 228-2325.

Do it for health, do it for someone you love!

Sincerely,



Dennis D. Keefe
President and Chief Executive Officer



W&I breast surgeon first in RI to use margin probe in lumpectomy

Women & Infants Hospital is the first in the state to offer breast cancer patients access to the MarginProbe™ System, which is three times more effective in identifying cancer on the margin of a breast mass during a lumpectomy than traditional methods.



David Edmonson, MD, a surgeon in the Breast Health Center, part of the Program in Women's Oncology at Women & Infants, has been trained to use the new device, which provides him with real-time positive cancer detection for breast cancer patients during a lumpectomy. Two additional breast surgeons—Drs. Ashley Stuckey and Jennifer Gass, co-director of the Breast Health Center and chief of surgery at Women & Infants—will also be trained to use the technology.

"During surgery, we always want to remove all of the cancer, but until this technology was developed, we couldn't know for sure that we'd gotten it all until pathology tests were done after the procedure," Edmonson says. "Now, we are in the operating room and we are better able to assess whether or not we've gotten clean margins around the cancer and that we are not leaving any cancer behind."

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This is important for several reasons:

- Women may choose lumpectomy to conserve their breast tissue instead of mastectomy which removes the entire breast.
- If the margins are determined not to be clean, a second surgery is needed before radiation to ensure that the cancer is gone.

With MarginProbe, however, there has been a 56-percent reduction in reoperation versus the standard of care.

“Lumpectomy and radiation are as effective in combating breast cancer as mastectomy, but only if there is a clean margin with no remaining cancer cells at the edge of the removed tissue,” Edmonson explains. “Unfortunately, the rates of reoperation if there is a positive margin in the breast can be as high as 30 percent.”

Using MarginProbe to ensure clean margins in the initial surgery helps reduce emotional distress for the patients, potential for scarring and deformation at the surgery site, and eliminates the increased cost of an additional surgery.

To ensure the clean margins, the surgeon uses the head of the disposable MarginProbe along the edge of the cancer site. The head contains the proprietary Fringe Field Sensor (FFS), which can detect minute differences in bioelectric properties in tissue when the surgeon presses the probe to the specimen. This allows the sensor to capture the tissue’s electromagnetic signature, which is either healthy or cancerous. The surgeon runs a series of measurements on each margin, collecting data for the entire specimen. With such real-time results, the surgeon can extend the margins to remove additional tissue if needed.

“This takes three to five minutes but makes a tremendous difference in the results and, ultimately, the patient’s satisfaction,” Edmonson says.

For more information

about the Breast Health Center at Women & Infants, go to womenandinfants.org or call (401) 453-7540.

Memorial physician and colleagues awarded the Society of Teachers of Family Medicine Innovative Program Award



David Anthony, MD, was awarded the Society of Teachers of Family Medicine (STFM) Innovative Program Award along with his colleagues on the board of the fmCASES. He was recognized at the STFM Annual Meeting in Florida recently.

Every year, the organization issues the Innovative Program Award for “excellence in the development of an original educational program or activity for family medicine residents, students, or faculty. The award recognizes a broad interpretation of innovative family medicine programs to include innovative residency programs, clerkships, services, curricula, or other activities that have had a significant, positive impact on family medicine education.”

The fmCASES is a set of 40 online virtual patient cases that comprehensively covers STFM’s National Clerkship Curriculum for Family Medicine.

Since its inception, Dr. Anthony has worked as one of the associate editors on the fmCASES editorial board.



Kudos to Skip Granai for national presentation at ACOG

Congratulations to Skip Granai, MD, director of the Program in Women's Oncology at Women & Infants Hospital and executive chief of oncology for the system, for being asked to give the Jim and Midge Breeden Lecture "The Good Fight" at the recent annual clinical and scientific meeting of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists in San Francisco earlier this month. Through his lecture, given to hundreds of peers from across the country, Dr. Granai encouraged doctors not to get bogged down by the business aspect of practicing medicine.



"If doctors are not evil, we can still be demoralized and disenfranchised as leaders in health care," he said. "Doctors are increasingly disenfranchised. It takes away from your passion and your heart for medicine....Health care has changed, some for the better and some for the worse. It is the latter that makes it tough to be a doctor. Our role is to advocate for the chance for people to live as long and as well as possible. We can help people connect with their own meaning. We can help people fight for abiding love and kindness. That is the good fight. If we abandon that advocacy role, we approach being evil."

Kent holds fifth annual health fair for breast cancer patients

The Breast Health Center at Kent will celebrate breast cancer survivorship by hosting its fifth annual health fair on Friday, May 29, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, 801 Greenwich Ave., Warwick, RI. The event is free to all cancer survivors, caregivers, and the community. Lunch will be provided.



The program will include the following speakers and presentations: Cornelius "Skip" Granai III, MD, FACOG, FACS, director of the Program in Women's Oncology, Women & Infants Hospital, "The Good Fight;" Candace Dyer, MD, general surgeon, medical director, Breast Health Center at Kent, "Breast Cancer—A Plunge Towards Future Health;" Lauren Talbert, RD, CSO, LDN, board-certified specialist in oncology nutrition, Women & Infants Hospital, "Nutrition Goals for the Breast Cancer Survivor;" Rebecca Stocker, DPT, CLT, physical therapist and lymphedema therapist, Women & Infants Hospital, "Cancer Rehabilitation and Survivorship;" and Ellen Healy, MA, LMHC, licensed mental health counselor, Kent Hospital, "The Elements of Healing."

To RSVP, please contact Kim McDonough, program director of The Breast Health Center at Kent, (401) 737-7010, ext. 35408, by May 20.



VNA of Care New England Hospice Care holds spring memorial ceremony

The VNA of Care New England Hospice Care Program recently held its annual spring hospice memorial at the Warwick Country Club. This celebration of life included candlelight, music, and a sharing of memories through photographs and stories for individuals who have lost loved ones, as a tribute to them.

Pictured in the photo is the granddaughter of a patient, who played the guitar and sang to the audience.

Nominate an "Excellent" CNE nurse

The September issue of *Rhode Island Monthly* will include an editorial feature called "Excellence in Nursing Awards" profiling the best and brightest nurses in our area. In conjunction with the Rhode Island State Nurses Association, nurses will be nominated by their peers and selected by a panel of nursing professionals and educators. Nominations will be accepted through Friday, May 22, 2015.



For more information or to download a nomination form, visit <http://www.rimonthly.com>.

