

# carenews

together we are transforming the future of health care

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“Team spirit, loyalty, enthusiasm, determination... Acquire and keep these traits and success should follow.”  
~ Coach John Wooden

*In sharing this week's **carenews**, it really is exciting to see the breadth and depth of your hard work, outreach and bridges you're building in our community.* Take a quick look at some of the bytes included in this week's issue and you can see our involvement at the Bryant University Women's Summit, a premier gathering now celebrating 20 years; the tremendous success of another CNE nurse recruitment program; the growth of our initiative in training new home health nurses; and an important professional connection between The Anchor Recovery Center and colleagues visiting from Vietnam to address policy and drug treatment practices.

I am never surprised to learn of all the amazing things being accomplished across CNE by you and all of your colleagues, rather I find it inspiring and exemplary. Keep up the great work!

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## Announcement regarding Dr. Price

It is with respect and admiration for Lawrence H. Price, MD, that I have accepted his resignation as president and chief operating officer of Butler Hospital, effective in June. Larry has served Butler for more than 20 years in a leadership position guiding the hospital's research and treatment environment to international stature.

In his personal letter to colleagues announcing his decision to step down as president, Larry noted the need for "leadership that, while deeply informed by the past, is not tethered to it... and will bring creativity and commitment to innovation that preserves the best of what we do but reflects the new emerging reality" of health care. He acknowledged the vision of Butler Hospital, one he played an important and valuable role in building, needs to be re-imagined and is making this personal sacrifice

willingly and of his own accord so Butler may move into the future with confidence.

This decision is a testament to Dr. Price's commitment to Butler. As he aptly paraphrased from William Faulkner, Butler "will prevail—because it has soul, a spirit capable of compassion and sacrifice and endurance." I believe this to be true, too, for Butler Hospital, and for all of Care New England. These times require we courageously carry forward our purpose—caring for other people—while at the same time fiercely address the business requirements we are facing as a system, as part of a rapidly transforming health care industry.



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Over the coming months, I will work with Larry to develop a strong interim succession plan to assure a smooth transition in June. I, too, am committed to Butler's success, to the vital behavioral health services the physicians, nurses, clinicians and staff provide our

community. I feel confident in saying on behalf of everyone at Care New England, we are grateful for the contributions Dr. Price has made to the practice of psychiatric medicine, to Butler and to Care New England. I know his legacy will continue through the Butler Hospital family.

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## Congratulations to everyone at Memorial Hospital

Congratulations to everyone at Memorial Hospital for the excellent work done this week as part of the visit from the Department of Health (DOH). What truly speaks to just how successful the visit was is the fact the surveyors did not find any deficiencies and they completed their work in just three days instead of the four days they had planned. The surveyors spent time across the hospital including: Intensive Care Unit (ICU), Hodgson 5 (H5) and Hodgson 6 (H6), focusing on care rounds, patient assessment, infection prevention and care planning.



Additionally, surveyors observed several treatments and the administration of medications. The surveyors completed their review of Human Resources files, a quality improvement interview, and an infection control tracer and interview. In their comments, the DOH team also highlighted strengths of Memorial policies and procedures, and the excellent care provided to patients and their families. You should be incredibly proud, as am I! Well done everyone!

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## Operational update

While I know everyone is eager to learn more about next steps with both Memorial and our system partnership plans, at this time there is no new information to share.

I look forward to being able to discuss more in the near future and appreciate your patience while this process continues.

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## Congratulations to Sen. Paiva Weed on new HARI role

Last week's announcement by Sen. Paiva Weed represents an exciting opportunity for the Hospital Association of Rhode Island (HARI) and for health care in our state. Her deep knowledge and commitment to improving access to high-quality and affordable health care for all Rhode Islanders should be applauded. Care New England has maintained a strong working

relationship with Sen. Paiva Weed throughout her tenure as Senate president and will continue to rely on her expertise as we navigate a complicated and uncertain future for the health care industry, both in Rhode Island and across the nation.



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## Little Rhody tops for nursing

I wanted to briefly share with you the great results of a recent survey published in the *Providence Business News*. In it, the career and employment website Zippia ranked Rhode Island number one in the country for nursing based on jobs available, average annual salary, as well as average annual salary for both entry-level work and experienced nursing professionals. Massachusetts ranked second on the list. It's no secret that Rhode Island has

much to offer including quality of life, beautiful beaches, and more. But, professionally speaking, the opportunity for new and seasoned nurses here is one that offers an environment fostering learning, professional advancement and excellence. Be proud of your fellow nurses across Rhode Island and Massachusetts, as well as the work you do as a CNE nurse!

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## Remembering Tom Parris

As I am sure you have heard, Tom Parris, former president of Women & Infants Hospital and senior executive vice president for system development at Care New England, passed away recently. The message that follows was sent by Mark Marcantano, president of Women & Infants,

last week. I felt it was important to share with all of you in consideration of Tom's lasting impact here.

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From Mark

*While I did not have the opportunity to personally work with Tom, the word most often used when people are speaking of him is "visionary." Indeed, he showed true vision when he led the transformation of the former Providence Lying-In Hospital from a maternity hospital to Women & Infants Hospital of Rhode Island, the comprehensive perinatal center and women's hospital it is today. In 1986, it was his vision that was the driving force in relocating Women & Infants from its antiquated Maude Street facility to the contemporary Dudley Street facility on Providence's south side.*

*Recognizing the importance of a strong women's health presence in Rhode Island, he forged partnerships and established relationships with Rhode Island Hospital and other providers in the state that enabled Women & Infants to take a lead in becoming a locally-, regionally- and even nationally-recognized provider of care for women and newborns. He put Women & Infants on the map. And, in 1996, it was Tom's vision for an integrated health care system to offer a continuum of quality care that resulted in the creation of Care New England.*

*Those who worked with Tom benefited from his passion and entrepreneurial spirit. If you had an idea, he encouraged you to pursue it—if it succeeded, he gave you all the credit, and if you failed, he held you accountable. But he always allowed people to try. He was notorious for encouraging people to think outside their comfort zones, recognizing a skill or a competency in someone and encouraging them to try something new. In fact, he often saw in others what they didn't even see in themselves.*

*There is no doubt that his legacy has lived on at Women & Infants and at Care New England. We offer our sincere condolences to his wife Mary, his children John, Will and Jen, and his entire family.*

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Have a great week ahead!

Sincerely,

*Dennis D. Keefe*

Dennis D. Keefe  
President and Chief Executive Officer



## Care New England holds second nurse recruitment event

More than 90 people attended Care New England's nursing recruitment event at the Crowne Plaza in Warwick on March 21, resulting in an overflow crowd. The event's success came on the heels of Kent Hospital's nursing and CNA recruitment initiative held two weeks ago, which drew more than 70 people. The interviews held on site at the Crowne Plaza will result in nearly 60 successful hires as CNE Human Resources staff complete their processes. We're excited to welcome new talent aboard our team and are still seeking operating room RNs at Kent Hospital for the float pool. Please follow Care New England on Facebook and LinkedIn where we'll feature upcoming recruitment events and employment opportunities.



## Residency program for new graduate home health nurses now accepting applications

The VNA of Care New England's Residency Program for New Graduate Home Health Nurses—an exciting opportunity for motivated individuals who are passionate about community-based nursing—is now accepting applications. The residency program is one year in length, beginning each September, with a dedicated preceptor for every six new graduates hired. The program targets recent graduates with less than one year of nursing experience who are preferably bachelor's prepared and have passed the

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RN NCLEX exam. The program has three phases: phase I (0 to 3 months) focuses on orienting to the agency and care of the home care patient; phase II (4 to 6 months) focuses on managing caseload as a team; and phase III (7 to 12 months) focuses on becoming independent case managers and developing professionally. Visit <http://www.carenewengland.org/nursing/vna-nurse-residency-program.cfm> for more information.

## Lauren Talbert, RD, CSO, LDN, achieves certification

Diet is an important part of cancer treatment, as nutrition plays an important role in the care and management of those newly diagnosed with cancer, those currently in treatment, and those who are in remission and trying to prevent recurrence. Having guidance from a qualified professional can help patients best optimize their nutrition to maintain their strength and energy during treatment and to improve their overall health after.

Lauren Talbert, RD, CSO, LDN, a registered dietitian on our Sodexo team who works in the Program in Women's Oncology, recently achieved board certification as a specialist in oncology nutrition from the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, formerly the American Dietetic Association. Talbert is one of only three such certified nutritionists in Rhode Island. Working with patients in both the Program in Women's Oncology and its Breast Health Center, Talbert offers individualized counseling based on each patient's lifestyle, food preferences and nutritional goals.



Talbert has a bachelor of science degree in both dietetics and food and nutritional science from the University of Vermont. She completed her dietetic internship at the Dana Farber Cancer Institute and Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston.

According to the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, in order to become certified, a registered dietitian must successfully meet rigorous specialty practice requirements and pass a nationally-administered examination.

Learn more about the program by visiting <http://www.womenandinfants.org/services/cancer/cancer-care.cfm>.

## CNE helps celebrate 20 years of inspiring, empowering, and advancing women

Care New England was one of the silver sponsors in celebrating "20 Years of Inspiring, Empowering, and Advancing Women!" on March 17, at The Bryant Women's Summit at Bryant University. CNE Outreach staff from W&I (Stephanie Regine), the VNA (Donna Demers), Kent Home Medical (Christa Andrews) and CNE Wellness (Shannon Ferns) interacted and shared information about CNE programs and services with nearly 1,100 people from throughout the region.

Nobel Peace Prize laureate Leymah Gbowee and Academy Award-winning actor and advocate Geena Davis both spoke at the event, focusing on issues surrounding gender equality and the elimination of pervasive barriers facing girls and women around the world. The Women's Summit incorporates current trends in education, leadership, entrepreneurship, communication, diversity, health, wellness, technology and financial topics in order to provide educationally enriching breakout sessions which support attendee's professional and personal aspirations.



## Anchor hosts visitors from Vietnam

On March 23, in a meeting facilitated by the Addiction Technology Transfer Center of New England at Brown University, a delegation of policy and drug treatment officials from Vietnam toured The Providence Center's Anchor Recovery Center in Pawtucket to learn about peer-led recovery support services. Anchor's Jonathan Goyer, George O'Toole and Debra Dettor talked about the different services offered by Anchor and how they are working to build the recovery community in Rhode Island.



## Care New England celebrates national donate life month—a time to honor those touched by donation and transplantation

Please join Care New England in the celebration of National Donate Life Month this April. The month-long celebration showcases various perspectives of those touched by donation and transplantation. Every year since 2002, April has been filled with stories to spread the lifesaving message of donation in order to motivate people to register as organ, eye and tissue donors. You can become a donor by registering at <http://www.RegisterMe.org>.

In 2016, Care New England had 36 people come forward as organ and tissue donors (30 from Kent Hospital and six from Memorial Hospital). The generosity of these donors restored health in the grateful recipients of lifesaving transplants.

Approximately half of the U.S. adult population is registered as donors. Still, the number of people in need of transplants continues to outpace the number of donor organs. On average, 22 people die each day because the organs they need are not donated in time. Registering your decision to become a donor is the most effective way to ensure you can save lives through donation and serves as sign of hope to those who continue to wait. To register as a donor or for more information about how to get involved, please visit <http://www.DonateLifeNewEngland.org>.

## Butler Hospital holds integrated case conference for psychiatric staff



On March 22, Butler hosted an integrated case conference called "Delirium, Dementia, or Double Trouble?" at Ray Hall. Caitlin Meyer, MD, presented with Amy Halt, MD, acting as the moderator. The conference, which served to engage psychiatrists, was open to all Butler health care professionals.

Dr. Meyer's presentation focused on: enhancing interviewing skills; employing strategies to improve interpersonal communication between caregivers; improving diagnostic ability; and utilizing the information presented relative to cultural/linguistic competency in order to improve the patient's care, safety and satisfaction. 

