



JULY 30, 2018 | VOLUME 8 | ISSUE 31

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**Hello, I hope many of you were able to find a restful reprieve this weekend from the very busy week we all had across Care New England. I think you can safely file that in the “never a dull moment” category!**

We should all look back on the past week with a momentary sense of pride and accomplishment for the way EVERYONE rallied together as a team to meet the community need across our state. We did it through careful planning, managing resources, ensuring safe staffing, but most of all, YOU did it through lots of hard work.

This effort has been indicative of everything Care New England represents. We regularly talk about our commitment to Quality, Service, and Access, and those were all in sharp focus last week and continue to be with all of the exciting work we have ahead of us. People are noticing what is taking place here at CNE, and it is exciting to be part of the dynamic health care being provided throughout our system. I just wanted to use this public forum to once again express my most sincere thanks and appreciation for a job well done!

In other news, I hope you saw my announcement Friday about the appointment of Robert J. Haffey, MBA, MSN, RN, as the new Kent Hospital president and COO. I know the folks at Kent will be eager to get working with Bob, who will also be a great addition to the CNE team. Bob will start on September 10. In case you missed the announcement, I have included it below for your reference.

Lastly, please be sure to check the schedule below for Town Hall meetings this week. I look forward to seeing you at an upcoming session, at the location that is most convenient to you. Please bring your questions and comments for a great conversation.

I hope you have a great week ahead!

Sincerely,

James E. Fanale, MD  
President and Chief Executive Officer

**ConvergenceRI**  
VIEW THIS WEEK'S EDITION HERE

## Town hall meetings scheduled

Dr. Jim Fanale, president and CEO of Care New England, will be holding employee Town Hall meetings next week. Please feel free to attend whichever day/time is most convenient:

- Monday, July 30 at 1:30 p.m. – Service Avenue, Building 2, lunch room
- Tuesday, July 31 at 12 noon – CNEMG Primary Care and Specialty Services, Pawtucket
- Tuesday, July 31 at 3:30 p.m. – Butler Hospital, Ray Hall
- Wednesday, August 1 at 2 p.m. – Women & Infants, South Pavilion, Auditoriums 1, 2, and 3
- Thursday, August 2 at 2 p.m. – Kent Hospital, Doctor's Auditorium

KENT

## Kent Hospital names new president and chief operating officer



Robert J. Haffey, MBA, MSN, RN, has been named president and chief operating officer of Kent Hospital, a Care New England hospital, effective September 10, 2018. Haffey comes to Kent after serving as the president of Springfield, PA-based Delaware County Memorial Hospital, Taylor Hospital, and Crozer Keystone Health System Ambulatory Care Services since 2014.

The appointment of Haffey follows a national search led by Care New England senior leadership, physicians, staff, and management.

"With nearly 20 years of health care leadership experience, and a particular focus on quality in an acute care setting, Robert has a combination of skills and knowledge that stood out as we went through the process of selecting the right person for this important role," said James E. Fanale, MD, president and chief executive officer, Care New England. "The diligence and hard work of our search team paid off, and we're looking forward to Robert's leadership at Kent as well as his role as part of the Care New England team."

Dr. Fanale also expressed his thanks and appreciation to Raymond O. Powrie, MD, executive chief of medicine for Care New England, who is currently serving as interim president of Kent and chaired this search committee.

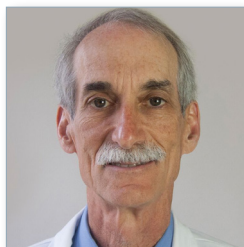
Haffey has been associated with Crozer Keystone Health System since 2012, serving as chief nursing officer for the five-hospital system before moving to his current role in 2014. His efforts during his tenure resulted in financial stability, recruitment of key specialty physicians, and an increased referral base. Haffey's five years of bedside nursing experience also give him an important understanding of hospital operations. Crozer Keystone Health System was acquired by Prospect Medical Holdings, Inc. in 2016.

"I'm excited for the opportunity to lead the tremendous group of dedicated professionals at Kent Hospital who remain focused on providing the highest quality, safest care for the patients and families in the surrounding communities," said Haffey. "The next few years are critical for the future of both Kent and Care New England, and I'm thrilled to be part of it."

Haffey received his master of business administration in health care administration from Eastern University in St. Davids, PA, and his master of science in nursing from LaSalle University in Philadelphia, PA.

BUTLER

## Promising research released in the Alzheimer's Field



Dr. Stephen Salloway, director of Butler's Memory and Aging Program, and his team attended the Alzheimer's Association International Conference (AAIC) last week in Chicago, where Alzheimer's drug makers Eisai and Biogen announced that their experimental therapy slowed mental decline by 30 percent in patients who got the highest dose in a mid-stage study.

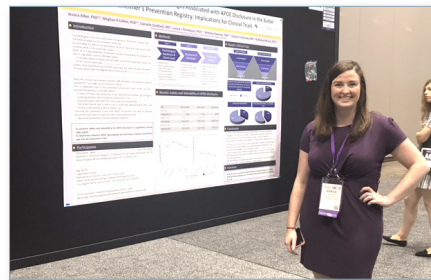
"This is a major advance in Alzheimer's research, offering new hope for patients and families," said Dr. Salloway. "The findings are consistent with the results of another antibody called aducanumab currently being investigated at Butler Hospital, suggesting that this strategy may be on target for a breakthrough."

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Other research presented at the AAIC showed that lowering blood pressure can decrease the risk of dementia years later. "Preventing dementia is another good reason to keep blood pressure under control. A healthy heart keeps the brain healthy, too," said Dr. Salloway. New studies are being launched to show the cognitive benefits of combining these healthy lifestyle approaches.

Prior to attending the conference Dr. Salloway was interviewed by *USA Today* on hopeful treatments for Alzheimer's disease. Salloway is quoted in the article, "There have been plenty of disappointments, and sadly, I'm an expert in those disappointments..." But "I'm quite bullish and think we're making significant progress." The *USA Today* story generated a sweep of national and internal coverage on the topic. Read it online at <https://usat.ly/2uCiBZf>.



## WOMEN & INFANTS

### Women & Infants extends mammography hours in East Greenwich

To meet the needs of the women of our community, Women & Infants is introducing extended hours for mammography services at the East Greenwich Medical Office Building to include evenings and weekends.

Care New England offers mammography services at the following locations:

- Women & Infants Hospital, Providence  
Monday through Friday – 7:30 a.m. to 7 p.m., Saturdays – 7 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. (401) 274-1122, ext. 41248
- Women & Infants Medical Office Building, East Greenwich  
Monday through Friday – 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., NEW! Mondays and Thursdays until 8 p.m., NEW! Saturdays 8 a.m. to 12 noon (401) 274-1122, ext. 41248
- Kent Hospital, Warwick  
Monday through Thursday – 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., Friday through Sunday – 7 a.m. to 3 p.m., (401) 736-1988
- Care New England Medical Group Primary Care and Specialty Services, Pawtucket  
Monday through Friday – 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saturdays – 8 a.m. to noon (401) 729-2334

## WOMEN & INFANTS

### "Blessing bags" donated to cancer patients at Women & Infants

Last week, a group of women from Pampered Chef and Gentry Moving and Storage delivered more than 500 gift bags to the Breast Health Center at Women & Infants Hospital. The bags, containing socks, lip balm, nail products, Pampered Chef items, and words of inspiration, will be distributed to patients in the Women & Infants infusion centers at Women & Infants, Kent, and Westerly hospitals.

The group, led by Christine Soave Crum, owner and president of Gentry Moving and Storage and a Pampered Chef representative, held a fundraiser with the intent of purchasing items to create 100 bags for patients. The response was amazing, with people contributing products, making monetary contributions, and donating personal care items to make the bags as individual as possible.

"This is a wonderful, thoughtful donation, and it will be greatly appreciated by our patients and staff. The bags go a long way toward making our patients feel supported in the knowledge that people are thinking of them and are in their corner during a very challenging time in their lives," said Dana D'Alessandro Haseotes, MSW, LICSW, MPH, clinical social worker and patient advocate at the Breast Health Center.



*Pictured front row from left to right are: Crystal Medeiros, Pampered Chef; Heather Langlais, Pampered Chef; Dana D'Alessandro Haseotes, social worker, Breast Health Center; Jennifer Gass, MD, FACS, chief of surgery and co-director of the Breast Health Center; and Robert D. Legare, MD, co-director, Breast Health Center. Back row from left to right are: Heather Coelho, nurse navigator, Breast Health Center; Christine Soave Crum, president/owner, Gentry Moving and Storage and Pampered Chef representative; Toni Jones, interim practice administrator, Program in Women's Oncology; Paula Grassmick, interim director, Outpatient Infusion Service.*



## VNA of Care New England welcomes new hospice volunteer coordinator



Barbara Fletcher, RN, of West Warwick, has recently joined the VNA of Care New England as hospice volunteer coordinator. In this role Fletcher will recruit, onboard, and train hospice volunteers. She will also ensure that both the volunteer and hospice patients are benefiting from the unique and rewarding experience.

As a hospice volunteer coordinator, Fletcher will attend conferences with the VNA's nursing, social work, and chaplain staff to obtain volunteer referrals. Fletcher will conduct monthly continuing education trainings to ensure volunteers understand best practices. She will also pair volunteers with patients and follow-up on the patient/volunteer relationship.

"My focus in this role is recruiting and training new volunteers," said Fletcher. "When presented the opportunity, I was ecstatic to accept. The role allows me to combine my education and training background with my understanding of the complex needs of hospice patients and their caregivers."

Fletcher began at the VNA of Care New England in January 2018 as a hospice case manager before transitioning to the hospice volunteer coordinator in April. As a hospice case manager she administered treatment to patients within the comfort of their home, developed care plans, and worked with physicians to determine individualized care plans.

Fletcher brings a breadth of experience as a registered nurse to the VNA of Care New England. Her professional experience includes serving as a nursing supervisor with the Rhode Island Blood Center, where she eventually transitioned to quality assurance and education specialist. She also dedicated seven years of her career to Providence College as the assistant director of nurses within their student health center.

"I look forward to working with volunteers who have an interest in making a difference in the life of someone who is dying, as well as the loved ones who they are leaving behind," says Fletcher. "I'm dedicated to helping volunteers understand a patient's unique needs, which can include companionship, a calming presence, or reprieve for the caregiver."

The VNA of Care New England has a number of volunteer opportunities that can be done from home, in the VNA of Care New England's office in Warwick, or with patients. The initial and ongoing trainings, provided by Fletcher, are an opportunity for continuing education for clinicians and to foster bonds with fellow volunteers. For information on volunteering with the VNA of Care New England, visit <http://carenewengland.org/volunteer> or call (401) 737-6050.

## RI Department of Health C. difficile survey | Final chance before the deadline!

The Rhode Island Department of Health has made reducing *C. difficile* infection a top priority. The Health Department is requesting that each of us who work in acute-care hospitals participate in a survey developed by the Centers for Disease Control. The survey will help identify opportunities for improvement by assessing our perceptions of infection prevention practices. Care New England is unconditionally dedicated to be the leader in quality health care in Rhode Island. As such, completing this survey in partnership with the Rhode Island Department of Health will go a long way in decreasing the incidence of *C. difficile* infections in our patients.



If you've not already taken the survey, visit <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/RI-CDI-TAP2018>. Paper copies in English, Spanish and Portuguese are also available. Contact the office of Infection Prevention for paper copies if needed.

A big thank you to those who have already completed the survey. We've already had hundreds of responses that will help inform next steps toward prevention!

## Teamwork across Care New England



We are looking for personal stories of your team, colleagues, work buddy, or someone who has played an important role in helping you achieve success, provided exceptional care for a patient, and/or met a community need. Given the demands of last week's patient surges Many of us experienced the true meaning of teamwork while providing quality patient care.

If possible, please share a picture of you and your team or the individual who helped you in a way that was above and beyond. Send your story (75 words or less) and a photo (if you have one) to <https://carenewengland.formstack.com/forms/stories>.

Be sure to include any pertinent information such as the name of department, OU, names of team members, etc. Importantly, please be sure that the photos do not include any patients, and make sure that all staff in the photo have agreed that we can publish the image. These stories will be highlighted in an upcoming issue of carenews, so everyone can read about these important examples of professionalism, kindness, and caring across our workplace. 