

Appointments



Heather A. Smith, MD, MPH, elected to American Medical Association Board of Trustees

CHICAGO — **HEATHER A. SMITH, MD, MPH**, an obstetrician-gynecologist from Rhode Island, was elected to the Board of Trustees of the American Medical Association (AMA), the nation's largest physician organization.

"I am honored by the trust my colleagues have placed in me to serve on the AMA Board of Trustees at a pivotal time for medicine," said Dr. Smith. "Physicians continue to face growing administrative burdens, workforce challenges, and barriers that threaten patient access to care. I look forward to working with physician leaders nationwide to strengthen our profession, improve patient care, and ensure the AMA remains a strong voice for physicians and the patients we serve."

Dr. Smith has held leadership roles in clinical practice and organized medicine at both the state and national levels where she has championed physician-led health policies to uphold the integrity of patient care

A member since 2002 of the House of Delegates, the AMA's policy-making body, Dr. Smith served as chair of the AMA Council on Legislation, helping advance federal and state policy solutions to key healthcare challenges.

A former president of the Rhode Island Medical Society, Dr. Smith led efforts to strengthen primary care, reduce administrative burden, and protect physician-led decision-making, guiding the organization through complex legislative and operational challenges.

In her clinical practice, Dr. Smith is a full-time academic OB-GYN and hospitalist at Women & Infants Hospital in Providence, RI, one of the nation's highest-volume obstetric centers, where she is director of OB-GYN quality and leads initiatives to improve health outcomes and reduce disparities in care.

Dr. Smith graduated from the University of Massachusetts Medical School and earned a master's degree from Boston University School of Public Health. She completed OB-GYN training at Brigham and Women's Hospital/Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Clinical Scholars Program at Yale University in New Haven, Conn. ❖



Kelly E. Dooley, MD, PhD, MPH, appointed Chief of Medicine for Brown University Health and Chair of Medicine at Brown

PROVIDENCE — **KELLY E. DOOLEY, MD, PhD, MPH**, has been appointed Chief of Medicine for Brown University Health and Chair of Medicine and the Joukowsky Family Professor of Medicine at The Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University, effective October

1, 2026. Dr. Dooley will succeed Louis B. Rice, MD.

Dr. Dooley currently serves as Professor of Medicine and Director of the Division of Infectious Diseases at Vanderbilt University Medical Center, where she has held multiple senior leadership roles. Prior to Vanderbilt, she spent more than a decade at The Johns Hopkins Hospital and Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, serving as an attending physician, educator, and accomplished researcher focused on tuberculosis therapeutics with an emphasis on clinical trials of TB drugs and HIV/TB co-treatment.

As a widely respected leader in academic medicine and

clinical research, Dr. Dooley has served numerous high-impact committees and advisory groups, including roles with the National Institutes of Health, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the World Health Organization. She is an elected member of the American Society for Clinical Investigation and serves on the Board of Directors of the American Society for Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics, among other professional organizations.

Her work has been recognized with multiple honors and awards for research, mentorship, and leadership, reflecting a career dedicated to advancing patient care, science, and physician development.

Dr. Dooley earned her medical degree from Duke University, her master's in public health in Epidemiology from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and her PhD in Clinical Investigation from the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. She completed her internal medicine training at Johns Hopkins Hospital and is board-certified in internal medicine and infectious diseases. ❖

Appointments



Dellene Troy, DO, an interventional sports and spine physiatrist, joins University Orthopedics

PROVIDENCE — University Orthopedics announced the arrival of **DELLENE TROY, DO**, an interventional sports and spine physiatrist specializing in physical medicine and rehabilitation.

Typically treating patients 12 and up, Dr. Troy brings a patient-centered approach to diagnosing and treating a wide range of musculoskeletal and nerve-related conditions, with a focus on restoring function and improving quality of life through injections and other non-surgical options.

“As a physiatrist, my goal is to help people feel better and get back to what matters most to them,” said Dr. Troy. “Whether that’s golfing, swimming, or simply being able to pick up a grandchild, every patient has different goals—and I work with them to achieve those.”

Dr. Troy specializes in identifying the root causes of pain, particularly in complex cases where symptoms may overlap or originate from multiple areas of the body. Patients often seek her expertise for conditions such as:

- Neck pain
- Back pain
- Hip pain
- Knee pain
- Shoulder pain
- Sciatica
- Degenerative Disc Disease
- Osteoarthritis

Her approach emphasizes minimally invasive, non-surgical treatments designed to relieve pain, restore mobility, and help patients avoid unnecessary procedures whenever possible.

“Expanding our access to advanced, non-surgical pain management is an important step in delivering truly comprehensive orthopedic care,” said **EDWARD AKELMAN, MD**, President of University Orthopedics. “Dr. Troy’s expertise allows us to help more patients find effective relief and, in many cases, avoid surgery while still achieving excellent outcomes.” ❖



Philip Philips, MD, joins Southcoast Health

FALL RIVER, MA — Southcoast Health announced that it has welcomed nine new providers in June. Among them are **PHILIP PHILIPS, MD**, who earned his Bachelor of Arts in Biology from Brown University and his Doctor of Medicine from the Warren Alpert Medical School.

Dr. Philips completed his General Surgery Residency at Baystate Medical Center, an affiliate of the Tufts University School of Medicine. He then went on to complete his Fellowship in Laparoscopic Surgery at Rhode Island Hospital. He is a board-certified general surgeon with expertise in advanced wound care and brings decades of surgical experience to his patients.

He is committed to delivering evidence-based, patient-centered care. He believes in combining clinical precision with clear communication, education, and a strong partnership with each patient. His goal is to restore function, comfort, and dignity while helping patients understand their treatment and actively participate in their healing process.

Dr. Philips is fluent in both English and Malayalam and is dedicated to serving a diverse patient population with compassion and respect.

Outside of medicine, Dr. Philips enjoys high-fidelity audio and video, technology, movies, automotive performance, and good food. ❖

Recognition

Butler honors Steven A. Rasmussen, MD, and Providence Police Department at gala

PROVIDENCE — On Thursday, June 18, 2026, Butler Behavioral Health hosted the Together We Thrive Gala. The event raised more than \$200K to support initiatives that promote the well-being of staff and enhance the overall patient care experience, ensuring that both those who provide care and those who receive it have the resources they need to thrive.

"We are grateful for the generosity of our supporters, whose investment in Butler's mission helps strengthen the foundation of exceptional care," said **MARY MARRAN**, President and COO, Butler Hospital. "By caring for the people who care for others, we are building a stronger, healthier future for everyone we serve. These funds will strengthen the well-being of our dedicated staff as well as maximize the care and services we provide to our patients and the community."



From left, **Mary Marran**, President and COO, Butler Hospital; **Dr. G. Mustafa Surti**, Executive Chief of Psychiatry and Senior Vice President, Butler Hospital; **Dr. Steven Rasmussen**, Butler Hospital; **Charles Reppucci**, Former Chair of the Butler Hospital Board of Trustees and Former Chair of the Care New England Board of Trustees.

This year, Butler honored **STEVEN A. RASMUSSEN, MD**, with the Charles Reppucci Butler Hospital Service Award. Dr. Rasmussen is the past Chair and Mary Zucker Professor in the Department of Psychiatry & Human Behavior at the Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University. Since 1983, his research has focused on increasing our understanding of the biologic basis and treatment of obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD). Currently funded projects include a study of harm avoidance and incompleteness in OC spectrum and anxiety disorders, developing neurosurgical and noninvasive neuromodulatory treatments for OCD, and using anterior capsular DBS and Lesions to understand the role of frontostriatal circuitry in the pathogenesis of OCD.

Dr. Rasmussen has received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the International OCD Foundation for his work, as well as the Pioneer in Radiosurgery Award from the Leksell Society. The author of over 180 peer-reviewed publications, he has been continuously funded by the NIMH for the past 30 years for his work in the treatment of OCD and neuromodulatory treatment for psychiatric disorders.



From left, Colonel **Oscar Perez**, Providence Police Chief; Mayor **Brett Smiley**, City of Providence; Commander **Timothy O'Hara**, Deputy Chief of Providence Police; **Dr. Michael Wagner**, President and CEO, Care New England Health System. [PHOTOS: CARE NEW ENGLAND]

The Lila M. Sapinsley Community Service Award was presented to the **PROVIDENCE POLICE DEPARTMENT**. One of the oldest law enforcement agencies in the United States, the Providence Police Department traces its roots to 1775, when night watchmen first patrolled the streets of Rhode Island's capital city during the Revolutionary War. The department issued its first badge in 1848, instituted daytime officers citywide in 1851, and was formally chartered in 1864—building a proud legacy that spans centuries of service.

Today, the Providence Police Department stands as the law enforcement agency covering the third most populous city in New England, serving over 190,000 residents across 20.5 square miles. Guided by the motto *Semper Vigilans*—Latin for "Always Vigilant"—the department is committed to community policing and forging strong relationships between officers and the neighborhoods they serve. Through investments in modern technology and dedicated personnel, the PPD continues to uphold its mission of protecting and serving with integrity, professionalism, and unwavering commitment to the safety and well-being of all who call Providence home. ❖

Places

Saint Anne's Hospital buries time capsule in celebration of 120 years of care



FALL RIVER, MA — Saint Anne's Hospital, part of Brown University Health, commemorated its 120th anniversary with the burial of a time capsule capturing the hospital's rich history and its ongoing commitment to the community. The capsule, set to be opened in 50 years on June 23, 2076, offers a glimpse into the people, practices, and milestones that define health-care at Saint Anne's today.

The curated time capsule includes items representing both the hospital's past and present, including historical medical instruments such as an ECG caliper, masks symbolizing the COVID-19 pandemic, a "day in the life" reflection from physician **SHANJIN CAO, MD, PhD**, handwritten in his native language of Mandarin, and a selection of photographs, speeches, articles, and other items rich with memories and special meaning.

"This time capsule is both a tribute to those who came before us and a reflection of the extraordinary work happening here today," said **JULIE ABILHEIRA, RN, MS**, President Massachusetts Hospitals, Brown Health. "As we celebrate 120 years, we are proud of our history and even more excited about the future. The dedication of our team and our commitment to our community will continue to guide us for generations to come."

Founded in 1906 by the Dominican Sisters of the Presentation, Saint Anne's Hospital has served generations of patients and families in the southeastern coast of Massachusetts, evolving alongside advances in medicine while remaining rooted in its mission of compassionate, patient-centered care. Over the past 120 years, the hospital has grown into a leading community healthcare provider, offering a wide range of services and specialties while maintaining a strong connection to its heritage. ❖



Saint Anne's Hospital donates trauma bags to Somerset Police Department to strengthen emergency response

FALL RIVER, MA — Saint Anne's Hospital has donated 20 fully equipped trauma bags to the Somerset Police Department, ensuring that every patrol cruiser is outfitted with critical, lifesaving medical supplies. The donation reflects Saint Anne's ongoing commitment to community health and safety, as well as its support for local law enforcement.

"Police officers play a vital role as first responders," said **JULIE ABILHEIRA, RN, MS**, president of Saint Anne's Hospital. "By ensuring they have the tools needed to provide immediate care, we are strengthening the entire emergency response system and helping to protect our community."

"The Somerset Police Department is proud and thankful to be able to partner with Saint Anne's Hospital on this important initiative. With their support, essential trauma response equipment will be supplied to every frontline response cruiser at the PD. The gift of much needed equipment allows for consistency in training and response procedures between both police and medical responders who are providing critical care on the scene of traumatic events. In addition to the staff of Saint Anne's Hospital, we extend sincere gratitude to State Representative Justin Thurber for his continued support of this initiative and connecting the PD with Saint Anne's Hospital, and to The Home Depot in Somerset, MA for their generous support of this project," said Sergeant Michael Demoranville, Somerset Police Department.

This commitment is underscored by the involvement of State Representative **JUSTIN THURBER**, who facilitated the partnership.

"I was proud to connect Saint Anne's Hospital with the Somerset Police Department to equip their vehicles with trauma bags, giving our officers critical life-saving equipment when seconds matter most. I am grateful for the chance to help build innovative local partnerships that bring together outstanding organizations like Saint Anne's to solve real problems in our community without always turning to the state for answers. I want to thank both Somerset PD and Saint Anne's Hospital for their leadership and teamwork. Their collaboration shows that when local partners work together, wonderful things can be accomplished for the people we serve," he said. ❖