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**Democrats take Governorship and Majority in House and Senate**



The Democratic ticket of Ned Lamont and Susan Bysiewicz beat the Republican team of Bob Stefanowski and Joe Markley in Tuesday's elections.

In the contest for Attorney General, Democrat William Tong beat Republican Susan Hatfield. Democrat Shawn Wooden beat Republican Thad Gray for Treasurer; Democratic incumbent Secretary of the State Denise Merrill beat Republican challenger Susan Chapman; and Democratic incumbent Comptroller Kevin Lembo beat Republican Kurt Miller to retain that office.

In the Connecticut General Assembly, Senate Democrats picked up a net of six seats in the election, creating a majority of 24-12 in the State Senate. Democrats picked up one open Senate seat.

House Democrats picked up a net of 11 seats in Tuesday's election. Democrats will retain a majority in the House, with an unofficial margin of 92 to 58, with at least 1 still not decided. Several races are within the margin, which requires an automatic recount, and that could take several days to finalize.

State Senators and members of the House of Representatives will meet in the coming days to caucus and vote on party leadership positions.

On the national level, Democrat Jahana Hayes won the open US House of Representatives seat in Connecticut's 5th Congressional District, beating Republican Manny Santos by 56 to 44 percent. The seat was previously held by Democrat Elizabeth Esty, who did not seek reelection.

In other Congressional elections, Connecticut's Democratic incumbents beat their Republican challengers to retain their respective seats in Congress. Those returning to Washington include: Congressmen John Larson (D-1), Joe Courtney (D-2), Jim Himes (D-4), and Congresswoman Rosa DeLauro (D-3).

All returning members of Congress will be sworn into office in January for another two-year term. Nationwide, the Democratic Party took control of the US House of Representatives.

In the US Senate, Democrat Chris Murphy beat Republican Matthew Corey. Unofficial totals indicate that Sen. Murphy secured approximately 60 percent of the vote versus Corey's 40 percent of the vote. At time of publication, there were still several national races yet-to-be determined, but based on the results thus far, Republicans will expand and retain control of the Senate.

In the coming weeks, Congress is expected to reconvene in a lame-duck session to enact legislation to continue to fund the federal government.

**November: National Hospice and Palliative Care Month**

November is [National Hospice and Palliative Care Month](#), established by the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization to raise awareness.



Educating and informing the public about hospice and palliative care is also a key part of [Care Decisions Connecticut](#), a Connecticut movement to empower people to take an active role in healthcare decision-making, beginning with conversations about end-of-life-care. Care Decisions Connecticut launched in 2016 with leadership from CHA, hospitals, healthcare partners across the continuum, and state government.

Connecticut hospitals have also recently been recognized for their work in hospice and palliative care.

On November 5, Western Connecticut Health Network (WCHN) was honored by the American Hospital Association with its Circle of Life Award®, which celebrates innovative organizations and programs across the nation that have made great strides in palliative and end-of-life care. Over the past 10 years, WCHN's Palliative Care program has grown from a small team at Danbury Hospital to reaching patients across the network and the

continuum of care, including home care, nursing homes, cancer center outpatients, and in the offices of primary care physicians and pulmonologists.

Earlier this year, the Geriatric and Palliative Care team at Bridgeport Hospital received the 2018 International Empathy Amplified Award during the Cleveland Clinic Patient Experience Summit. The national award recognizes individuals who transform care through courtesy, communication, and compassion.

**Connecticut Hospitals Among Nation's Most Wired**



Connecticut hospitals continue to rank among the country's Most Wired, according to Healthcare's Most Wired 2018 survey.

For 2018, seven Connecticut hospitals are among the 254 organizations earning the Most Wired recognition. The recognition is given to hospitals and health systems that are at the forefront of using healthcare information technology to improve the delivery of care. Connecticut Children's Medical Center, Johnson Memorial Hospital, Middlesex Hospital, Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center, Saint Mary's Hospital, Stamford Hospital, and Yale New Haven Health were honored as among the country's Most Wired hospitals and systems.

Additionally, the report identified key emerging technology trends: a focus on integration, interoperability, security,

and disaster recovery; and the use of transformational technologies to support population health management, value-based care, patient engagement, and telehealth.

## Connecticut Perinatal Quality Collaborative Annual Conference



The Connecticut Perinatal Quality Collaborative annual conference on November 19 at CHA will focus on disparities in maternal and infant health outcomes.

Pediatrician Sarah Taylor, MD, Yale New Haven Hospital, will present on the role of socioeconomic and racial disparities in human milk production. She will also discuss leveraging the power of a perinatal quality collaborative to achieve change.

Neonatologist Heather Burris, MD, MPH, Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, and Assistant Professor of Pediatrics at the University of Pennsylvania Perelman School of Medicine, will present on the epigenetics in racial disparities.

The conference will also include a session on the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act from the Department of Children and Family's Deputy Commissioner Kristina Stevens. The day will also include a session on maternal mortality and morbidity in the US by Andreea Creanga, MD, PhD, Associate Professor, Department of International Health and Department of Gynecology and Obstetrics, Johns Hopkins University.

[Event Registration](#)

## Education Updates

### Transitioning From Staff to Management: What's Next?

Wednesday, November 14, 2018

8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

[View Brochure](#) | [Event Registration](#)

Whether recently assigned to the role of manager or a seasoned veteran, it is important to determine how well your problem solving, critical thinking, and decision making skills are keeping pace with the ever changing healthcare environment. For those who attended *Staff to Management: Starting the Transition* in March or September, this is the second course in the two-part program and provides additional development for all managers—those who are new to the role and those who want to improve their skills.

### Conflict Management: Engaging the Difficult Employee

Thursday, November 15, 2018

9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

[View Brochure](#) | [Event Registration](#)

It is clear to almost everyone that conflict is inevitable in life—in personal lives as well as in the workplace. Different personalities, different work styles, cultural/ethnic norms, and differences in generational mix, all lead to an endless possibility of conflict surfacing at work. What is not so clear is the role conflict plays in the process of change and effective team problem solving—both major factors in improving organization performance. How can people recognize and manage the sources and trigger points of conflict? When is conflict healthy—what makes it destructive? How can people reduce or defuse unnecessary conflict? What are the various styles of dealing with conflict, and the risks and benefits of each approach?

### De-escalation Training

Friday, November 16, 2018

9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

[Event Registration](#)

CHA is approved by CPI to provide an abridged version of its Nonviolent Crisis Intervention® foundation course using a blend of online and classroom learning. This program will provide attendees with CPI's Blue Card™ confirmation. Included in this program is approximately two hours of online pre-work and a pre-test. Please note: the pre-work and pre-test must be completed prior to attending the classroom portion of the program at CHA.

### ICU Infections: How Do We Get to Zero?

Tuesday, November 27, 2018

9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

[Event Registration](#) - Morning

[Event Registration](#) - Afternoon

Infection frequency has decreased but, in many parts of the country, there are ICUs with zero infections. Learn from best practices and new science to tackle infections. The morning session will focus on clinical interventions and practical strategies to reduce infections. The morning will feature Kathleen Vollman, MSN, RN, Critical Care Clinical Nurse Specialist, Educator and Consultant, Advancing Nursing, LLC, based in Michigan; and William Miles, MD, Director of Surgical Critical Care Outreach and Co-Medical Director of Neurosurgical ICU, University North Carolina School of Medicine.

This program will be of interest to clinical ICU nurses, intensivists and other physicians, advanced practice providers, infection preventionists, respiratory therapists, and physical therapists, all of whom play a role in keeping ICUs infection-free. The morning session is sponsored by HRET through funding from the CDC and AHRQ.

The afternoon session, sponsored by ECP, will focus on environmental services science and best practices to keep the environment microbe-free.

### Peer Supporter Training

Friday, November 30, 2018

9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

[Event Registration](#)

Gerald Lewis, PhD, will provide training for peer supporters and those who will train peer supporters in their organizations. Dr. Lewis has worked with national and international government agencies, healthcare facilities, educational institutions, and private businesses on a wide

range of work, behavioral health, and organizational issues. His focus is facilitating organizational recovery and resiliency with the emphasis on "people-recovery."