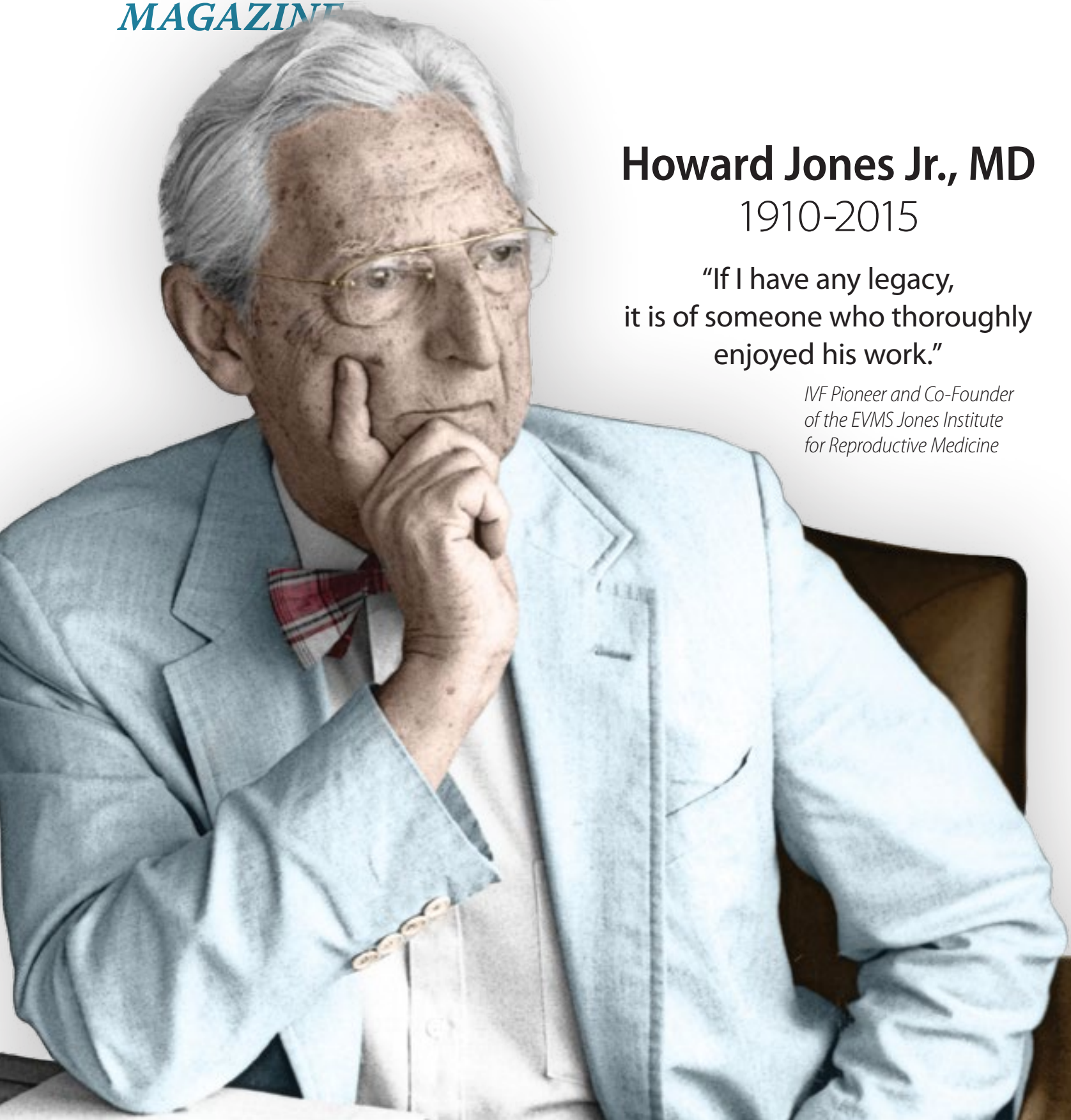


EVMS

MAGAZINE



Howard Jones Jr., MD 1910-2015

"If I have any legacy,
it is of someone who thoroughly
enjoyed his work."

*IVF Pioneer and Co-Founder
of the EVMS Jones Institute
for Reproductive Medicine*

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EVMS

MAGAZINE

2015-2016 | ISSUE 8.1



Remembering Dr. Howard

page 12

EVMS pays tribute to Howard Jones Jr., MD, surgeon, scientist, mentor, leader — and the nation's pioneer of reproductive medicine.

departments



- 4 **Vital Stats**
- 5 **News + Notes**
- 18 **Alumni Connections**
- 20 **Your Support**
- 22 **myStory**
- 23 **In Focus**

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Edward Brickell, EdD



Anibal Acosta, MD



Howard Jones Jr., MD

Death, regrettably, is an integral component of the cycle of life.

Although those of us in the medical and health professions do all we can to mitigate suffering, improve quality of life and responsibly prolong it through our professional care, we all must bow to the inevitable. This is a sad time for Eastern Virginia Medical School as we mourn the deaths of three beloved men who served EVMS with distinction and integrity.

In June, we lost Edward Brickell, EdD, President Emeritus of EVMS and President from 1988 to 2000. Under Dr. Brickell's leadership, the medical school saw an increase in enrollment and enhancements in infrastructure and services. Read more about his impact on page 6.

During June we also lost Anibal Acosta, MD, Professor Emeritus, an early member of the EVMS Obstetrics and Gynecology faculty. Dr. Acosta played a key role in EVMS' early in vitro fertilization efforts as an expert in male infertility — a rarity at the time. Read more on page 9.

And in July, we lost Howard Jones Jr., MD, co-founder of the EVMS Jones Institute for Reproductive Medicine. A brilliant scientist and clinician, Dr. Jones was responsible — along with his late wife, Georgeanna Jones, MD — for the first in vitro fertilization baby born in the United States. Read more about Dr. Jones' long life and remarkable legacy starting on page 12.

Our thanks go out to the families of Drs. Brickell, Acosta and Jones for sharing these men with EVMS as they each endeavored to better the health of Hampton Roads. We also offer our condolences to their families in this time of loss.

We appreciate your support of EVMS. Thank you for mourning with us in times like these and for celebrating with us as we make medical breakthroughs and continue to train accomplished medical and health-professions students.



Sincerely,

Richard V. Homan, MD

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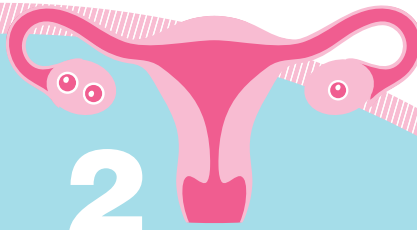
John O. Wynne Jr.

1



The woman gets an injection that stimulates her ovaries to produce eggs.

2



A physician retrieves multiple eggs.

3



An egg is placed in a petri dish with sperm from the husband or a donor.

THE CIRCLE OF LIFE IN VITRO FERTILIZATION

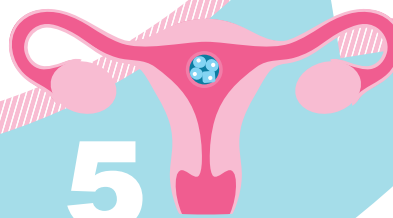
Infertility is the inability to become pregnant after one year of regular sexual intercourse without the use of birth control. There are many possible reasons for infertility, including male and female factors. Many couples who experience infertility resort to in vitro fertilization, or IVF. In fact, estimates are that one percent of all births annually in the U.S. are a result of IVF. Here's how the IVF process works, thanks to the pioneering work of Drs. Howard and Georgeanna Jones and the Jones Institute For Reproductive Medicine.

4



The fertilized egg grows during a 3-4 day incubation period.

5



The physician transfers one or more embryos into the woman's womb.

6

If all goes well, the embryo attaches to the womb and a pregnancy results.



If the woman does not become pregnant, she can try again or resort to more advanced treatments.



Pioneering influence leaves a legacy

Retiring chair was a role model in the field of dermatology

Antoinette Hood, MD (left), with EVMS alumna Kristyn Beck, MD. Dr. Beck is now an EVMS Dermatology resident who considers Dr. Hood her mentor.



Hanging on the walls of thousands of board-certified dermatologists' offices is a certificate with the signature of Antoinette Hood, MD. As the first female Executive Director of the American Board of Dermatology, Dr. Hood helped shape and influence the field of dermatology by setting the standards for dermatologists to earn and maintain board certification.

This month, Dr. Hood, Chair and Professor of EVMS Dermatology since the department's inception in 2002, retires after a pioneering 48-year career that started when she became one of the first female dermatology residents at Harvard Medical School. A leader in dermatopathology — a subspecialty in which physicians diagnose skin diseases through microscopic examinations — she also served as the first female

President of the American Society of Dermatopathology.

"She is a legend in the field of dermatology," says Clark Otley, MD, Chair of Dermatology at the Mayo Clinic. "Toni has had a gigantic and positive influence on our specialty as a whole. Perhaps more importantly, though, has been her substantial inspirational impact on thousands of young dermatologists who have, from near or far, admired and emulated Toni."

Dr. Hood taught at Washington Hospital Center, George Washington University, Johns Hopkins University and Indiana University before coming to EVMS in 2001 and joining the internal medicine and pathology faculty. In 2002, dermatology became a stand-alone department with Dr. Hood at the helm.

"The past almost 15 years have just

wildly exceeded any expectations I could have had," Dr. Hood says. "Having an opportunity to develop this department and residency program and then watching them grow over time — and then to be able to see them take off with a new leader — it's just awesome."

Abby Van Voorhees, MD, previously an Associate Professor of Dermatology at the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine, was named the new chair in February. Dr. Hood will stay on through December as part of the transition. She says she'll miss teaching. "But, who says I won't sneak in and teach a few lectures." □



To read more about Dr. Hood's impact in the field of dermatology, go to evms.edu/magazine.



Beloved educator and former EVMS President Ed Brickell dies



At the summer EVMS Board of Visitors meeting, board members offered a moment of silence for Edward Brickell, EdD, President Emeritus of EVMS and President from 1988 to 2000, who died Friday, June 12.

Dr. Brickell presided over the institution during a period of robust growth in enrollment, infrastructure and services. His passion for education was unparalleled. EVMS recognized his devotion to the people of Hampton Roads and his commitment to the institution in 2000 when it opened the Edward E. Brickell Medical Sciences Library.

At the dedication of the library, former Congressman G. William

Whitehurst hailed Dr. Brickell as the “right person at the right time to lead EVMS from its awkward adolescence to a new level of maturity.” Dr. Brickell’s accomplishments were far-reaching:

- The endowment growing from \$18 million to \$40 million during his tenure.
- The addition of more than 90 full-time faculty members and a dramatic increase in the number of endowed faculty positions.
- The establishment of centers of excellence for pediatrics, geriatrics, hearing and balance, cancer research, and modeling and simulation.

- Infrastructure that resulted in a five-fold increase in the number of funded research programs.

In addition to his role leading EVMS, Dr. Brickell was superintendent of Virginia Beach City Public Schools from 1968 to 1987; a member of the William & Mary Board of Visitors from 1976 to 1984, serving as Rector from 1978 to 1982; and an adjunct faculty member at Virginia Wesleyan College where he was preparing to return in the fall.

Dr. Brickell served in the Army Air Corps in World War II and then graduated Phi Beta Kappa from William & Mary, earned his master’s degree from the University of Chicago and obtained his doctorate in education from William & Mary. □

Innovative partnership brings comprehensive medical care to Norfolk students

Students at Norfolk's Booker T. Washington High School will be the first beneficiaries of a cutting-edge partnership to bring comprehensive medical services to a Student Care Center housed at the school. The center will be funded by a grant from Optima Health and will be operated in partnership with EVMS, Norfolk Public Schools, the City of Norfolk, United for Children and United Way of South Hampton Roads.

United for Children is a public-private partnership — in which EVMS participates — aimed at breaking the cycle of poverty by driving educational success for children. Its leaders saw an opportunity to bring medical services to Booker T. Washington High School to support students in their efforts to graduate on time. The center will be the first of its kind in Hampton Roads, designed to offer the comprehensive services of a family physician's office in a clinical space inside the school.

EVMS' M. Foscue Brock Institute for Community and Global Health and

EVMS Family and Community Medicine are championing the collaborative project within the medical community.

"The hope is that we can keep the students in school, address issues that affect their health and education, communicate with their primary-care physicians and avoid unnecessary visits to emergency departments," says Cynthia Romero, MD (MD '93), Director of the Brock Institute, who notes that the full range of services will be implemented in phases. "Ultimately, we hope that students receive necessary and preventive care, remain healthier and thus achieve higher graduation rates."

The center is set to open this fall with an advanced-practice clinician serving student patients two half-days per week. As demand for services increases, the center could expand to as many as five half-days per week, says Christine Matson, MD, Professor and Chair of Family and Community Medicine. Dr. Matson will oversee the center initially, reviewing records and providing consultation for the clinician on site.



Christine Matson, MD

Eventually, EVMS hopes to provide opportunities for physicians in its family medicine residency to be part of the team at the Student Care Center.

"This is a way for us to demonstrate our commitment to our community," Dr. Matson says. "It will be an opportunity for our resident physicians to see through the students' eyes those experiences that impair or support health, and to see how they can contribute beyond their office walls." □



Learn more about the partnership at evms.edu/magazine.

New contraceptive is first of its type in a half-century

EVMS researchers had a role in the development of the new non-hormonal contraceptive known as Caya.

The contoured, single-size diaphragm is the first new design to enter the U.S. market in more than 50 years, according to Gustavo Doncel, MD, PhD, scientific and executive director of CONRAD, a program of EVMS Obstetrics and Gynecology. CONRAD conducted clinical trials that demonstrated the safety, acceptability and effectiveness of the diaphragm that can be used for up to two years.

Caya has been available since 2013 in several countries. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration approved the diaphragm last fall for marketing in the United States. Caya is available by prescription. □



Learn more about the Caya diaphragm at evms.edu/magazine.



Monique Gillman, MD, and Nicole Gillman, MD

Identical twins, identical jobs

If you choose to give birth at Sentara Norfolk General Hospital, you're likely to encounter Dr. Gillman. That's Monique. Or is it Nicole? The identical twins hold identical jobs. As hospitalists with EVMS Medical Group, they manage the labor and delivery process and bring new lives into the world — as many as 10 in a single day. Since they work alternating days, there is almost always a Dr. Gillman on the floor leading a team of health-care providers. “Some days are slow. Some days it's crazy,” Dr. Nicole Gillman says. “We couldn't function without the residents or the nurses.” How can you tell them apart? Nicole has longer hair. The careful observer also will notice that, unlike her sister, Monique is left-handed. □

New clinic brings diabetes care to Western Tidewater

A quarter century ago, EVMS established a comprehensive diabetes center in Norfolk in recognition of the growing impact the disease was having in Hampton Roads.

Earlier this year, the EVMS Strelitz Diabetes Center extended that vision, opening its first satellite clinic. With funding from the Obici Healthcare Foundation, the new clinic, located in Suffolk, is intended to be a resource for the people of Western Tidewater, where diabetes is particularly rampant.

Already, the clinic is having an impact, says David Lieb, MD, Associate Professor of Internal Medicine and Director of the Suffolk clinic. Staff have screened more than 370 individuals for diabetes, and the clinic is serving a growing number of patients, regardless of their ability to pay for services.

Dr. Lieb and his team offer a comprehensive approach to diabetes, including prevention advice, lifestyle education and disease management. Specialists are providing diagnosis and care for foot, eye and kidney diseases — common complications of diabetes. □



Jerry Nadler, MD (center), the Harry H. Mansbach Chair in Internal Medicine, Professor and Chairman of Internal Medicine and Vice Dean of Research, speaks with Gina Pitrone, Executive Director of Obici Healthcare Foundation, and other guests at the open house for the Strelitz Diabetes Center of Western Tidewater.



David Lieb, MD, Associate Professor of Internal Medicine and Medical Director of the EVMS Strelitz Diabetes Center of Western Tidewater, discusses the importance of retinal health in diabetic and pre-diabetic patients with George Birdsong, Chairman of Obici Healthcare Foundation; Nancy Welch, MD, Acting Director of the Western Tidewater Health Department; and Pastor Emanuel Myrick, Obici Healthcare Foundation board member.



To learn more about the clinic, visit evms.edu/magazine.

EVMS wins \$1.75 million grant for TEACH project

The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services has awarded EVMS a five-year, \$1.75 million grant to fund a project known as Transformative Education Advancing Community Health (TEACH).

The project is the only one of its kind in Virginia funded under HRSA's Primary Care Training and Enhancement program and one of only 32 similar projects funded around the nation. It will bring together regional health-care providers to collaborate on improving population health and reducing health-care disparities.

Project partners include the EVMS departments of Pediatrics, Internal Medicine and Family and Community Medicine; EVMS' Physician Assistant Program; Old Dominion University; several local hospitals; and specific free clinics. Project director is Bruce Britton, MD (MD '90, Family Medicine Residency '93), Professor of Clinical Family and Community Medicine.

"The grant will enable us to create a clinically integrated network that will reduce disparities in health care," Dr. Britton says, "especially for people



Bruce Britton, MD

who have chronic diseases but no health insurance. This network will essentially mimic our nation's new vision of delivering health care through accountable care organizations, or ACOs. What we're developing is essentially a safety-net ACO. It won't be easy but it is doable."

The project will provide EVMS students and residents with inter-professional education and service-learning opportunities. "We all want to deliver better care to the community," Dr. Britton says. "This grant will help us move health care closer to where it needs to be." □



Professor Emeritus dies

Anibal Acosta, MD, an early member of the EVMS faculty and an expert in male infertility, died in June.

A native of Argentina,

Dr. Acosta trained in gynecological endocrinology at Johns Hopkins Hospital with Georgeanna Jones, MD, part of the husband-and-wife team that would leave Johns Hopkins to start the nation's first in vitro fertilization (IVF) practice at EVMS. Along with her and her husband, Howard Jones Jr., MD, Dr. Acosta joined EVMS in 1978 as the third full-time faculty member in obstetrics and gynecology.

When the EVMS IVF program was established, Dr. Acosta was eager to join the effort, Dr. Howard Jones recalled in an interview before he died in July.

"He was a particularly important member because he had training in the diagnosis and treatment of male infertility," Dr. Jones said. "This was quite rare because such training was not generally experienced in American-trained gynecologists. [His] knowledge of the male aspect of infertility was indeed invaluable."

In addition to his involvement with the IVF program, Dr. Acosta studied the causes and therapeutic possibilities for the infertile male prior to the invention of intracellular sperm injection (ICSI).

Dr. Acosta received the Dean's Outstanding Faculty Award for his major contributions to the school and to his profession. He was named Professor Emeritus upon his retirement in 1997. He is survived by his wife, Rosita, and two sons who reside in Hampton Roads. At the request of the family, memorial gifts can be made to EVMS as a tribute to Dr. Acosta. □





Earlier this year, EVMS students teamed with Norfolk Fire and Rescue and the American Heart Association to teach City of Norfolk employees how to perform CPR.

Taking it to the streets: Students as teachers

Just days after a City of Norfolk employee learned CPR, she put it to use, helping save a life when a fellow shopper collapsed at a Norfolk supermarket. The city worker is one of a growing number of people who has mastered the lifesaving technique thanks to training conducted by EVMS students.

The outreach is recognition of the impact CPR can have on survival. More than 300,000 people die annually in the United States as a result of out-of-hospital cardiac arrest (OHCA). Communities that have increased rates of bystander CPR — that provided by non-medically trained individuals — have seen improvements in OHCA.

In Norfolk, there were 346 cardiac arrests during a one-year span. Of those only 40 (12 percent) received bystander CPR. EVMS has teamed with Norfolk Fire and Rescue and the American Heart

Association to change those statistics. Focusing on areas where CPR rates are low, the students also are educating participants on how to use an automated external defibrillator. The entire training takes only about 20 minutes. It is part of the service-learning curriculum offered through EVMS' M. Foscue Brock Institute for Community and Global Health. □



To learn more about service learning at EVMS, visit evms.edu/magazine.

Medication strategies may improve sociability in autism

Social settings can be not only overwhelming, but also debilitating for some people diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD). Recent research from scientists with EVMS Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences shows promising results in helping some with ASD overcome the challenges that such social interactions may cause.

The studies — one a laboratory-based study using mice and the other a small clinical trial — explored different compounds that stimulate a receptor in the brain that is known to affect sociability and cognition. The results of the studies showed improvements in both sociability and spatial working memory.

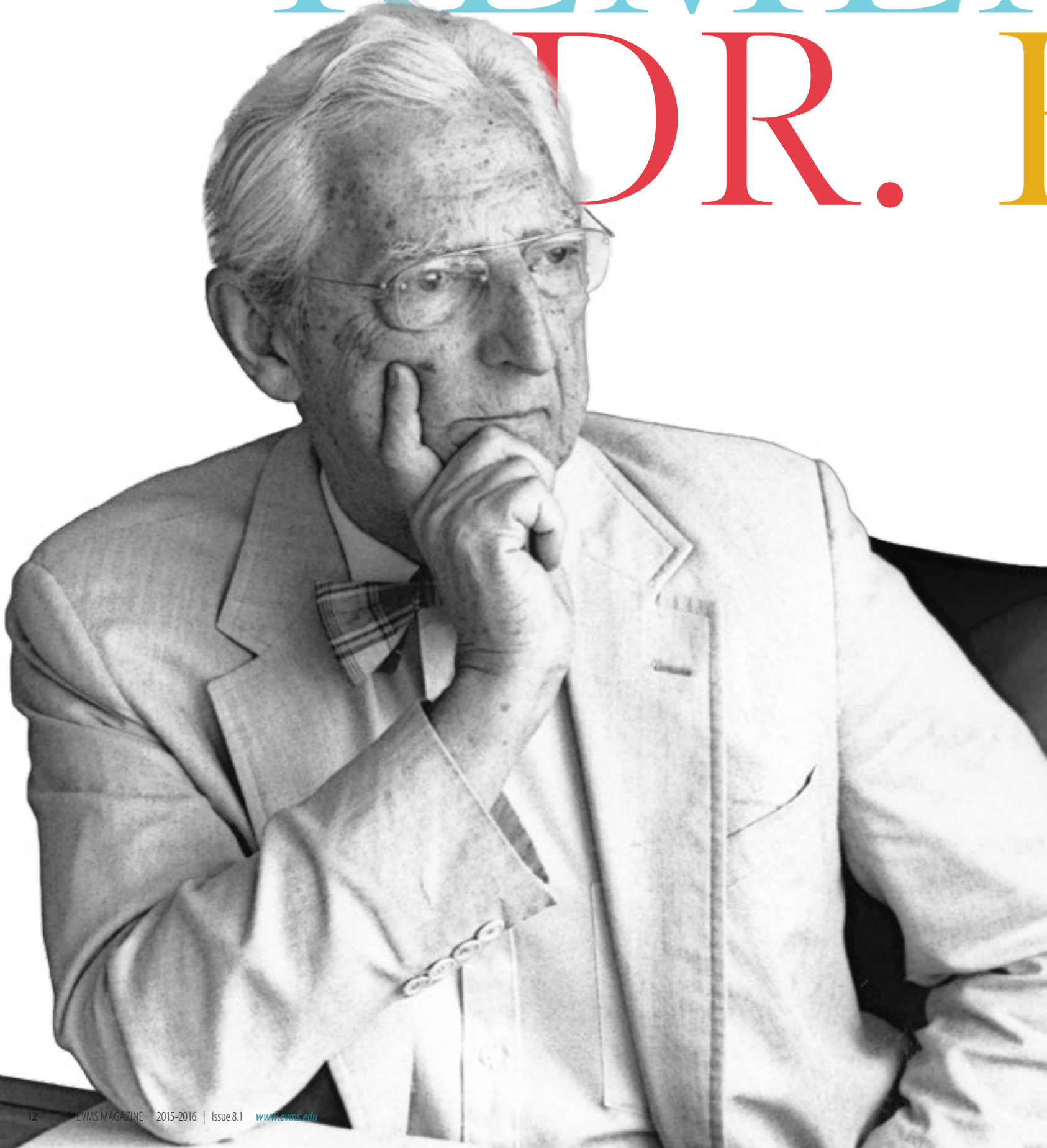
The research adds to the body of evidence generated by EVMS scientists that targeting this specific receptor can be an effective strategy for helping some people with ASD improve their socialization. □



Learn more about this research at evms.edu/magazine.



REMEMBER DR. J



MEMBERING HOWARD

EVMS salutes Howard Jones Jr., MD, surgeon, scientist, mentor, leader — and the nation’s pioneer of reproductive medicine

At 27, surgeon Howard Jones Jr., MD, published his first journal article. Reprints of his articles, most of which he co-authored with his wife, fill 18 volumes on a shelf in his EVMS office.

At 104, before he died July 31, Dr. Jones still worked in that office two to three hours a day. His most recent journal article and 13th book were published in 2014. He scheduled his lectures and meetings on his iPhone.

Over his 80-year career in medicine, “Dr. Howard,” as he was known, inspired and touched millions around the world. The main reason? In 1981, thanks to techniques he and his late wife, Georgeanna Jones, MD, pioneered, the first in vitro fertilization (IVF) baby was born in the United States. That success gave rise to the subspecialty of assisted reproduction, as well as the Howard and Georgeanna Jones Institute for Reproductive Medicine at EVMS.

Today, about 1 percent of all U.S. births are the result of IVF, and some experts say the number of IVF births now exceeds five million worldwide.

Drs. Howard and Georgeanna Jones came to EVMS in July 1978 after reaching the then-mandatory retirement age at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. Already renowned in their fields — Dr. Howard for gynecologic surgery, Dr. Georgeanna

for reproductive endocrinology — they were recruited here by their friend and co-founder of EVMS, Mason Andrews, MD, to co-lead the school’s Obstetrics and Gynecology department.

Gerald Pepe, PhD, the EVMS Foundation Chair in Biomedical Sciences and Professor and Chair of Physiological Sciences, arrived at EVMS the same week.

“Howard always asked the challenging questions,” Dr. Pepe says, “not only of others’ work but of his own. He knew without that questioning, science doesn’t move forward. I enjoyed every minute I spent talking with him, and I always walked out of the room knowing more than when I walked in. I gave a seminar in June, and who was in the front row asking questions? Howard Jones.”





When Sarah Smith Houck of Virginia Beach read that Drs. Howard and Georgeanna Jones were opening an IVF clinic, she jumped on the phone. “I volunteered for anything they wanted to try,” she says. “Not long before that, I had asked my gynecologist about in vitro research, and he said it would never happen in my lifetime.”

As the Jones team’s first patient, Ms. Houck tried IVF seven times without success. “A year later,” she says, “my husband asked me to give it one more try. So I called and they said come in right now.” That was December 1984. Her twin daughters, Heather and Ashley, were born nine months later. Their photo still graces a shelf in Dr. Jones’ office.

“He got so much joy from seeing his patients have a child,” she says. “Whenever I was around him, I would just sit there in awe. He was my miracle.”

He was Judith Carr’s miracle, too. Ms. Carr gave birth to the nation’s first IVF baby, Elizabeth Jordan Carr, in December 1981. After meeting with the Jones team, she says, “I knew we were in the right hands. I went through the IVF procedure on my 28th birthday, and I still laugh when I think about Dr. Jones and the team singing ‘Happy Birthday’ to me as they performed it.”

During her pregnancy, a monthly checkup with the team meant she had to fly alone to Norfolk from her Massachusetts home while her husband worked. “The first time, Dr. Jones asked how I got to the hotel from the airport, and I said I took the airport shuttle. And he said, ‘Well, you won’t be doing that again,’ and from then on, he picked me up at the airport in his 15-year-old station wagon.”

His care and concern extended to her family’s privacy, Ms. Carr says. “He was very protective of us. He included us in all the conversations about how the news would be disseminated and who would have access to us. We became part of the team in that respect.”

Also part of the original IVF team was embryologist Lucinda Veeck Gosden, DSc, who’s now retired. “The most remarkable thing about Howard,” Dr. Gosden says, “was not just that he was an over-achiever, but the level of over-achiever that he was.”

After traveling 31 hours to New Zealand with Dr. Jones and his wife, Dr. Gosden remembers struggling to keep up with him.

“I was anxious to hit the hotel room for some sleep,” she says, “but Dr. Howard announced that

we should throw the suitcases in the rooms and set out immediately.”

Even after he turned 100 and used a motorized wheelchair to get around, “I had to run to keep up with him,” says Nancy Garcia, Dr. Jones’ assistant for 36 years. She laughs explaining that he was a terrible speller and couldn’t read his own handwriting. Then choking back tears, she says, “He was the easiest person in the world to work for. He was like my second father. As long as he needed me, I wouldn’t retire.”

Sergio Oehninger, MD, PhD, is the Henry Clay Hofheimer II Chair in Obstetrics and Gynecology, Vice Chair of EVMS Obstetrics and Gynecology and Director of Reproductive Endocrinology and Infertility at the Jones Institute. Dr. Jones’ work brought Dr. Oehninger to EVMS from Uruguay in 1986. “What I learned from Howard,” he says, “was his thinking process – how to determine the right question to ask and how not to get discouraged if you don’t have the answer today.”

He also talks of Dr. Jones’ approachability. “Whenever we had a question, we would bring it to him. He was a unique human being. He was old-fashioned in a way, humble and simple, but a progressive thinker and caring mentor. You don’t find his kind of leadership very often.”

Dr. Jones demonstrated that leadership in 1984 by pushing the American Fertility Society, now the American Society for Reproductive Medicine, to establish an ethics committee. “He was the champion of ethics in that society,” Dr. Oehninger says.

Judith Carr agrees. “He was incredibly ethical,” she says. “He was very careful about that because he knew it would be a vital part of the IVF legacy.”

Larry Hultgren, PhD, Professor of Philosophy at Virginia Wesleyan College, serves on the EVMS Institutional Review Board and taught ethics courses and seminars at EVMS with Dr. Jones for a decade. “The fact that I had a chance to work with him and call him Dr. Howard has been the most stellar aspect of my career in bioethics,” he says. “So much of what I learned from him I’ve been able to take back to the students in my classroom.

“We just conducted an ethics seminar together in late June. This man was vital and vibrant right up until the end.” □



View more photos and videos of Dr Jones online: evms.edu/magazine

The most remarkable thing about Howard was not just that he was an overachiever, but the level of overachiever that he was. ”

— Lucinda Veeck Gosden, DSc



A Tribute to “Granddad Jones”

by Elizabeth Jordan Carr

I own a heart-shaped sterling silver necklace with the number “1” on one side and my initials on the other. I wear it only on special occasions as a mini good-luck charm or whenever I visited Dr. Howard Jones. The necklace is a silent reminder of my roots and a precious souvenir of the work that went into my birth.

Growing up, I knew that Dr. Howard and his wife, Georgeanna, were the doctors who made IVF technology in the United States possible, but I never appreciated what that meant until I was older. To me, Dr. Howard was part of my family. He signed my Christmas and birthday cards “Granddad Jones” every year.

The first time I realized I was not like everyone else was when I watched PBS’ NOVA documentary of my birth: A Daughter for Judy. I watched it seated between Drs. Howard and Georgeanna Jones, my legs dangling from the chair as the lights dimmed. My parents did not attend. I know now it was because they could not think of better people to explain my conception than those two determined, brilliant minds who had perfected the procedure.

That was the day I realized the courage of those pioneering doctors. And it was then I realized that all the media attention I had gotten my entire life was misplaced, because I did nothing. It was my doctors and parents who were special.

When I was 10, I got to meet and hold IVF babies numbers 1,000 and 1,001. I remember their parents telling me, “Without you and your parents, our babies wouldn’t be here.”

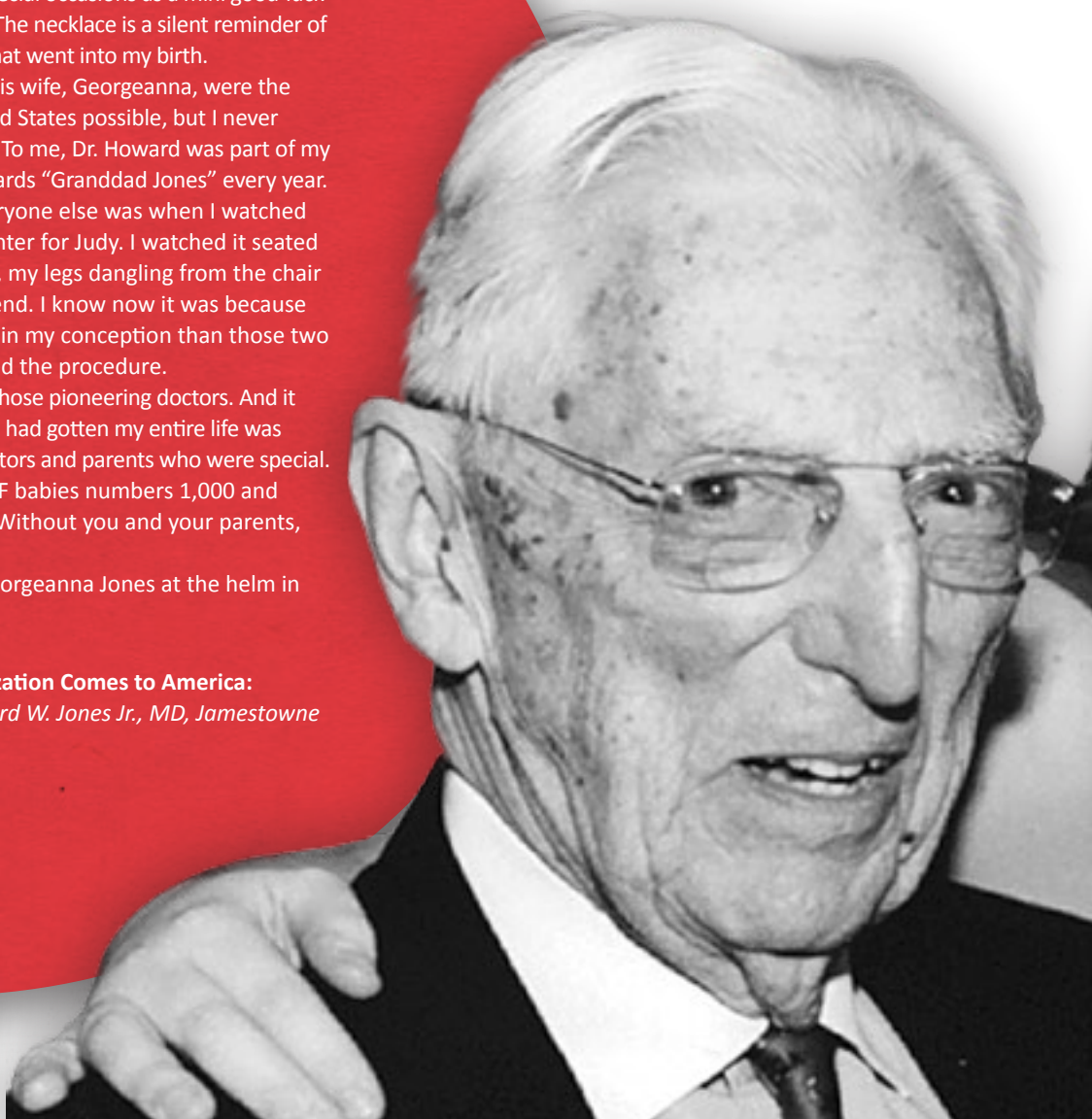
But, in turn, without Drs. Howard and Georgeanna Jones at the helm in Norfolk, I simply wouldn’t be here. □

*Adapted from the foreword to **In Vitro Fertilization Comes to America: Memoir of a Medical Breakthrough** by Howard W. Jones Jr., MD, Jamestowne Bookworks (2014). Used with permission. □*



View a timeline of Dr. Howard’s incredible life and career: evms.edu/RememberingDrHoward

Howard Jones, MD: the father of IVF in the U.S.



Howard Jones Jr., MD, the father of in vitro fertilization (IVF) in the United States and a prodigious scientist who still worked at the age of 104, died Friday, July 31.

“Dr. Jones’ accomplishments were incredible and amazing,” says Alfred Abuhamad, MD, the Mason C. Andrews Chair in Obstetrics and Gynecology and Chair of Obstetrics and Gynecology at EVMS. “He and his wife, Dr. Georgeanna Jones, revolutionized care for women with infertility problems. Everywhere you look around the world you can see Howard and Georgeanna Jones in the fellows they trained, the discoveries they made and the countless patients they impacted.”

Born in Baltimore in 1910, Dr. Jones was

the son of a physician and was delivered by the obstetrician-father of his future wife. He attended Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine and eventually became the go-to surgeon at Johns Hopkins for genital abnormalities and reconstructions.

For three decades at Johns Hopkins, Drs. Howard and Georgeanna Jones shared one office and a desk for two. When they reached mandatory retirement age, they accepted an employment offer from a Hopkins classmate, Mason Andrews, MD. He was building the obstetrics and gynecology department at the five-year-old EVMS.

The Joneses arrived in Norfolk the day the world’s first IVF baby was born in England. Asked by a *Virginian-Pilot* reporter if the



Elizabeth Carr keeps a special necklace that reminds her of her place in U.S. IVF history.



same thing could be done in the U.S., Dr. Jones replied it could – and added, “All we need is money.” To their surprise, a former patient of Dr. Georgeanna Jones called with an offer to help. The resulting donation was the seed money that launched the Joneses’ work.

After several dozen failed IVF attempts, a couple from Massachusetts became pregnant on the first try. The result was Elizabeth Jordan Carr, today a mother herself, born to great fanfare Dec. 28, 1981, in what is now Sentara Norfolk General Hospital.

The first birth brought international fame. The Vatican reached out to the Joneses to help advise Pope John Paul II on the controversial new science of IVF.

It also led to protests. The effort to open

the Jones Institute was met by a skeptical public. But at a hearing on the merits of IVF and the proposed EVMS clinic, the Joneses found encouragement from an unexpected source. EVMS students packed the hearing to voice their support.

Even after turning 100, Dr. Jones still kept regular office hours in the building that bears his name. He was a regular at scientific conferences and continued to contribute to the latest literature.

“During the course of my medical career,” says Richard Homan, MD, President and Provost of EVMS and Dean of the School of Medicine, “I have the privilege and opportunity to meet extraordinarily accomplished clinicians, biomedical scientists

including Nobel laureates, and health-care policy and executive leaders. Only twice have I looked into the eyes of an individual who created and transformed their medical discipline and left a historic mark in clinical medicine: Michael DeBakey, MD, in cardiovascular surgery and Howard Jones Jr., MD, in reproductive medicine.”

Dr. Jones was the consummate biomedical innovator, physician, scientist, academician and gentleman, Dr. Homan says. “His work touched the lives of countless families and, consequently, he changed the world. He shall be dearly missed by his patients, students and medical colleagues at EVMS and around the globe. I am indeed grateful that our paths crossed in life.” □

Surgical Assisting alumnus paves the way for those who follow

Chase Allen (SA '11) hasn't forgotten his roots. A trainer with Intuitive Surgical, Inc., Mr. Allen teaches surgeons the art of robotic-assisted surgery. He credits his career to the professional start he received at EVMS and looks for ways to give back to his alma mater.

"Without EVMS," he says, "I would not be where I am today. They gave me the tools to succeed. After I graduated, it was clear that what I mastered at EVMS put me on a different level than those I was competing with."

As an EVMS student, Mr. Allen worked with Craig Goodmurphy, PhD, Associate Professor of Pathology and Anatomy, to develop a student-trainer model still in use at the school today. The goal was to provide surgical assisting students with additional lab time to fine-tune their knowledge of anatomy. It also enabled them to work with medical students to teach surgical techniques.

Since graduating, Mr. Allen has served as an SA program recruiter at colleges in Georgia and as an employment recruiter for a surgical company. Several times he has helped fellow EVMS SA alumni find employment.

But perhaps his greatest gift to EVMS comes via his teaching role at Intuitive Surgical. Mr. Allen helped develop



Chase Allen (SA '11) teaches surgeons the art of robotic-assisted surgery.

a training-partnership program between EVMS and his company that embeds da Vinci Robotic Certification into the SA curriculum. Last spring, students from EVMS traveled to Atlanta to receive training from Mr. Allen on the use of the da Vinci Surgical System.

EVMS is the only medical school to have an industry partnership that embeds this in-demand

certification into its Surgical Assisting training.

"From his first phone contact with EVMS as a student and now as an alumnus, Chase has displayed the highest level of professionalism," says R. Clinton Crews, MPH, Director of the Surgical Assisting Program and Assistant Professor of Health Professions. "As an educator, you hold in your mind the image of the model student and you actively seek students who reflect that image. Chase is that model student and model professional."

For Mr. Allen, maintaining a relationship with EVMS is about giving back to the school and laying a foundation for those who come behind him.

"I am a big believer in EVMS and in the education it provides to its students," he says. "I will do anything I can to pay that forward." □

Join your classmates at the 2015 Alumni Weekend

All alumni are invited to reunite with their classmates during the Annual Alumni Weekend, Oct. 16-18, 2015. The festivities include a POETS reception for MD alumni Friday evening, a private EVMS Alumni Chalet at the Town Point Virginia Wine Festival Saturday and campus tours and breakfast Sunday. Registration is required for all events. Full details at evmsedu/alumni.



LIKE OUR FACEBOOK PAGE www.facebook.com/EVMSalumni for alumni news and links.



Cmdr. Darian Rice (third from left) was one of only three military medical professionals in the nation to be named a 2015 Hero of Military Medicine.

Class of '99 grad earns national honor as hero of military medicine

Cmdr. Darian Rice, (MD '99, PhD '02), leads a life of service. A decorated military officer and physician, he has focused his life's work not only on helping to heal the nation's wounded and ill service members and veterans, but also on teaching the next generation of doctors.

As Chief of Cardiothoracic Anesthesia and Director of the Anesthesia Residency Program at the Naval Medical Center Portsmouth, Cmdr. Rice is the model of servant leadership. From the front lines of Iraq and Afghanistan to serving as a flight surgeon with NASA, he has certainly earned the title hero— even if it does make him blush.

Earlier this year, Cmdr. Rice was named a 2015 Hero of Military Medicine by the Center for Public-Private Partnerships at the Henry M. Jackson Foundation for the Advancement of Military Medicine, Inc. The award is given to just three active-duty military medical professionals annually— one each representing the Army, Navy and Air Force.

"Never in a million years did I think I would be the recipient of

this award," Cmdr. Rice says. "Every day I work with people who are as equally motivated and equally deserving of this award."

During his time at EVMS, Cmdr. Rice spent three months on active duty with SEAL Team 4, Naval Amphibious Base, Norfolk, where he instructed Combat Life Support and completed training in Wilderness Trauma Life Support and High-Angle Rescue for Special Operations. He also completed a one-month rotation at the Casualty Care Research Center, Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences in Bethesda, Md., where he developed medical threat assessments in support of a Presidential Protection Detail and in preparation of a FBI-Hostage Response Team mission.

Looking back, he says his education at EVMS provided the strong foundation necessary to be successful as a military physician.

"One of the many things that stand out in my mind," he says, "is the faculty and staff who had an open-door policy and were truly dedicated to our education. They were always willing to go the extra mile. The experience and skills gained from the MD and PhD programs truly set me up for success in medicine, academics and research." □

Class notes

- **Kevin McCarten-Gibbs, MD (MD '89)**, was appointed Director of the Department of Emergency Medicine at the UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital Oakland (Calif).
- **Randolph Gould, MD (MD '76)**, recently finished an eight-year term as a member of the American Medical Association's Council on Legislation. The council explores legislative issues at the state and federal levels and makes recommendations

to the organization's Board of Trustees. Dr. Gould is also starting his 19th year as a member of the Medical Society of Virginia's delegation to the AMA. He will now serve as chair of the delegation.

- **Rosemary Juskevich (Art Therapy '94)** was elected to the Durango Arts Center Board of Directors (Colorado). She will serve a three-year term. □



From left: Wayne Wilbanks, Chairman, EVMS Foundation Board of Trustees; Pete Galanides, At Large Board Member, Sertoma Club of Norfolk; Barry Strasnick, MD, Professor and Chair of EVMS Otolaryngology; Wayne Williams, Immediate Past President, Board Chairman, Sertoma Club of Norfolk; Ken Danser, Treasurer, Sertoma Club of Norfolk; Preston Garner, Secretary, Sertoma Club of Norfolk; Lewis Swartley, Sergeant at Arms, Sertoma Club of Norfolk; Scott Harris, Member, Sertoma Club of Norfolk; Craig Baker, Member, Sertoma Club of Norfolk; Bobby Baker, 2nd Vice President, Sertoma Club of Norfolk; David Pearman, Member, Sertoma Club of Norfolk; Richard Homan, MD, President and Provost of EVMS and Dean of the School of Medicine.

Club's largest gift ever will establish Sertoma Club of Norfolk Temporal Bone Laboratory at EVMS

At a recent meeting of the EVMS Foundation Board of Trustees, members of the Sertoma Club of Norfolk presented a check to EVMS for \$150,000 to establish the Sertoma Club of Norfolk Temporal Bone Laboratory. It was the largest gift the Norfolk club has ever made to a nonprofit organization.

The new temporal bone lab will enable EVMS Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery to enhance its instruction in the discipline of ear surgery by providing simulated instruction in dissecting the ear and its surrounding structures. The Sertoma Club gift will fund the lab's eight training stations that comprise video monitors, microscopes, temporal bone holders, and water and suction equipment to allow concentrated instruction and education in temporal

bone anatomy and surgical technique. The lab is expected to open this fall.

Sertoma is an international community-service organization whose members support the cause of helping speech- and hearing-impaired children. The Sertoma Club of Norfolk has provided over 50 years of service to the Hampton Roads community, with its primary-service project to assist people with speech, hearing and language disorders. □

Bethesda Cosmopolitan Foundation makes gift for diabetes research



The Bethesda Cosmopolitan Foundation recently made a \$50,000 gift to EVMS for diabetes research. The foundation is part of the Capital Federation of Cosmopolitan International, which has supported EVMS diabetes research for 30 years. Pictured from left are Jerry Nadler, MD, the Harry H. Mansbach Chair in Internal Medicine, Chair and Professor of Internal Medicine and Vice Dean of Research; Mike Fistere of the Bethesda Cosmopolitan Foundation; Richard Homan, MD, President and Provost of EVMS and Dean of the School of Medicine; and George Clarke, also of the Bethesda Cosmopolitan Foundation.

Chesapeake Bay Wine Classic Foundation presents check to EVMS



In June, organizers of the 2014 Wine, Women & Fishing fundraising event, produced by the Chesapeake Bay Wine Classic Foundation, presented a check to EVMS for \$79,200. This brings the annual event's total contributions to EVMS to \$388,675 since 2004, most of which has funded breast cancer research. The 2015 event, held in August, will almost certainly see total contributions closing in on the half-million mark. Pictured from left: Wayne Wilbanks, Chairman, EVMS Foundation Board of Trustees; Eric Feliberti, MD, Associate Professor of Surgery and Surgical Oncologist, EVMS; Jennie Capps, Executive Director, Chesapeake Bay Wine Classic Foundation; Linda Church, Chair, Wine, Women & Fishing; and Richard Homan, MD, President and Provost of EVMS and Dean of the School of Medicine.

EVMS experts deliver a different kind of care

For several years, Kavitha and John Johnson tried unsuccessfully to get pregnant. Their struggle with infertility left the couple weary and distraught.

“It was every single month getting a negative [pregnancy] test, getting a negative test,” Ms. Johnson says. “I just wanted to crawl into my own bed. I didn’t want to talk to people. I was depressed. My friends were getting pregnant left and right.

“They called me on days that I wasn’t scheduled to come in to see how I was. I didn’t know care could be that way.”

“I was wondering when is it going to be my turn,” she recalls. “When do I get to be a mom?”

For Mr. Johnson, the most difficult part was observing his wife’s disappointment after each test. “Seeing how heartbroken she was made me feel terrible,” he says.

In despair, the Johnsons turned to the Jones Institute for Reproductive Medicine at EVMS. They met with Silvina Bocca, MD, PhD, a reproductive endocrinologist and Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology.

“For about 12 years, I had been asking what was wrong and nobody could give me an answer,” Ms. Johnson says. “I went to Dr.



After 12 years of infertility, Kavitha and John Johnson found answers at the EVMS Jones Institute for Reproductive Medicine. Their daughter, Addison, is the result of their successful IVF treatment.

Bocca and I would say within two weeks, she was able to tell me what was wrong.”

Ms. Johnson was diagnosed with polycystic ovary syndrome, a condition notoriously difficult to pinpoint because it can cause a variety of seemingly unrelated symptoms — including infertility.

With the diagnosis made, the couple looked at treatment options. When ovulation induction didn’t work, Dr. Bocca suggested in vitro fertilization (IVF).

Ms. Johnson had the IVF procedure, and during a follow-up visit she had a pregnancy test. After all their disappointments, the results were an unexpected surprise.

Today, 2-year-old Addison Johnson is a constant source of joy for her parents, who are grateful to the physicians and staff at the Jones Institute.

“They genuinely cared. They called me on days that I wasn’t scheduled to come in to see how I was,” says Ms. Johnson, recalling how one physician drove through a snowstorm to keep a scheduled appointment. “I didn’t know care could be that way.” □



Watch the Johnsons’ story online at evms.edu/magazine.



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1. Before they hit the books, new students had some outdoor fun at the annual President's Picnic held during orientation. It's a way for students to meet their faculty members in a relaxed environment.

2. Summer scholar Brittany Crawford, an ODU senior who wants to be a clinical psychologist, explained her research poster to Joy Wu, PhD, Assistant Professor in the School of Health Professions. Ms. Crawford's poster explored "Physician Assistant Student Perceptions and Interpretations of Prescription Drug Abuse in the United States, and Implications for Curriculum Change."

3. In an August ceremony at Harrison Opera House, students in the MD Class of 2019 received their short white coats and learned what they symbolize. The yearly tradition represents the students' official entry into the medical profession.



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4. Incoming Health Professions and MD students spent their second day of orientation sprucing up Norfolk's P.B. Young, Sr. Elementary School and packing backpacks with school supplies. It was EVMS' third annual Community Impact Day.

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