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OCTOBER 2005

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You trust your doctor with your life and, sometimes, your happiness. By staying on top of the latest procedures, technologies and medication, the nine profiled here show why they are among the best.

photographs by Phil Flynn

Top Docs

Nicholas Petrelli Oncology

Like many Delawareans, Dr. Nicholas Petrelli goes to the beach to

relax. He fishes in the Indian River Inlet or goes for a morning swim in the ocean at Cape Henlopen. Petrelli learned to surf as a teenager on family vacations to Montauk, Long Island, so when he moved to Delaware four years ago, after two decades in Buffalo, New York, he took up the sport once more.

But even when the 58-year-old Petrelli is relaxing, his mind is on his work. "I see these young people on the beach tanning," he says, shaking his head in dismay. "Melanoma is one of the most common cancers."

He worries that the proliferation of new housing in coastal Sussex County has led to an inadequate medical infrastructure for the influx of residents, many of whom are older adults at higher risk for cancer.

For Petrelli, cancer care is not just a career. It's his life's mission.

Petrelli came to Delaware in 2001 to be the first medical director of the Helen F. Graham Cancer Center at Christiana Care Health System. He had reached his zenith at the Roswell Park Cancer Center, where he worked since beginning his surgical oncology fellow-

► continued on page 130



Changing the Business World

When we come up with the idea for a story like "Women in Business," the focus usually becomes clear as the writer gets deeper into the research. But in the case of this month's cover piece (see page 50), we found that there were so many women doing so many different things, it was best to present as broad a cross section as possible. After all, "business" could mean almost anything.

The women featured this month are corporate leaders, educators and those who decided to live their dreams by starting businesses of their own. Yet no matter what their backgrounds or experiences, each has a story to tell.

One of the most remarkable is that of Terri Kelly, who recently became the first woman to lead W.L. Gore and Associates. As you'll read, the qualities that aided her success are the very same that help someone get elected president of the United States: She has an ability to recognize a great idea, develop a

strategy for making it real, communicate effectively, unite disparate groups and win supporters. It would seem that, even in a company that is structured as uniquely as Gore, good old-fashioned recipes for success still work best for individuals.

Ms. Kelly sets an outstanding example for all, women and men alike. That's especially important in a state that ranks among the lowest in number of female entrepreneurs. We hope that those of you who are trying to realize a dream take notice. Read on, and please enjoy.

Correction: Plastic surgeon Jonathan Pontell was accidentally omitted from the list of top doctors in the October issue. Dr. Pontell's main office is at 3411 Silverside Road in Wilmington. He can be reached at 478-8532. Delaware Today regrets the error.




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