



REFLECTIONS

ON A PANDEMIC
Hope on the Horizon

ACHAT

2021 - January/February/March



COVID-19: One Year Later

By John G. Anderson
President and CEO

On March 25, 2020, a worldwide pandemic zeroed in on our local community. And since that time, our health system — the physicians, nurses, ancillary staff... EACH and EVERY staff member — have navigated these unprecedented times with confidence, compassion, and courage as we provided the critical care our patients so desperately needed.

An Incident Command Center and emergency response team was activated when news of the virus first began circulating. Our materials management team stockpiled personal protective equipment, anticipating a shortage in the near future, and we immediately outfitted 45 patient rooms with negative pressure capability. We would need all of them and more.

The advent of the pandemic saw everyone at Anderson gear up for a “new normal,” with extensive measures to keep staff, patients and the public safe.

Anderson quickly became one of the busiest hospitals in the state for the care of COVID-19 patients. In addition to hospitalizing COVID-19 patients, we continued to provide care for other critically ill patients as well.

It became clear early on that our ventilator capacity

would be challenged. Marshalling and operationalizing all ventilator assets became priority. We mobilized anesthesia machines from idle operating rooms to increase our ventilator capacity. We took emergency stockpile transport ventilators and converted them from battery operated to continuous direct current to prevent power interruptions. We adapted our high temperature sterilization equipment to sterilize invaluable N-95 face masks for re-use. We implemented the buddy system for donning and doffing of personal protective equipment. Our infection control team remained in contact with hospitals on the west coast who were already experiencing what would hit Mississippi in a matter of days. This enabled us to receive insight on new practices such as placing IV pumps outside of patient rooms to decrease the use of PPE and reduce exposure to the virus.

Our nurses, respiratory therapists and ancillary staff continued to provide much needed care, despite the fear of the unknown and the potential risks involved. With no end in sight to the number of COVID patients being admitted to the hospital, they continued encouraging one another and showed an immeasurable amount of compassion to patients and families who were forced to be separated during this unimaginable season.

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“Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged...”



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We leaned heavily on faith during this time and selected Joshua 1:9 as our scripture for 2020. It reads, “Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged. For the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.” This verse is now permanently displayed near the entrance to our critical care units.

Facing a lot of unknowns with a novel virus that appeared to affect each patient differently, our medical staff immediately began to research best practices. Our physicians and hospital participated in a nationwide clinical trial for convalescent plasma therapy, and they instituted the early use of the drug Remdisivir. They introduced the use of high flow oxygen in lieu of a ventilator when possible, and implemented the practice of proning, or turning ventilated patients on their abdomen to improve lung function. These practices, in concert with other therapeutics, increased positive outcomes, a much-needed victory and a welcome result of our physicians being at the forefront of COVID-19 research.

We, like every hospital and health care system in the country, have been impacted financially by the virus and its unintended consequences. When non-emergent surgeries and procedures were suspended, our pre-COVID patient volumes dropped by one-third to one-half almost overnight. Even still, we remained resilient in the provision of timely and effective care for all who crossed our thresholds.

While there have been times of discouragement and loss, there have been far more victories. Each time a COVID-19 patient is discharged, we play a chorus of The Beatles’ song, “Here Comes the Sun.” This song has been played more than 800 times throughout the halls of the hospital as we celebrate another patient going home to

their family.

Throughout this trying time, we learned, we grew, we united, and we were very blessed. We continue to be blessed by the response from our community which could not be more overwhelming or gratifying.

We received a constant flow of masks from “Sewing Heroes,” who made thousands of masks for our staff and patients when PPE was scarce. A steady stream of meals, well wishes, cards and prayers flooded the health system as the effects of the pandemic became more burdensome. It was real proof that by “Standing Together,” we could not be discouraged. Still today, we have not lost sight of the remarkable goodwill of this community.

Since that pivotal day in March 2020, the people of Anderson Regional Health System have fought on the front line of the battle set before them. The challenges of COVID-19 have sharpened our expertise, strengthened our skills and unified our purpose. We have provided over 8,000 cumulative days of care to COVID-19 patients. This equates to 22 YEARS of care in just twelve months. We have administered 26,000 COVID tests, vaccinated over 3,000 people, and delivered 450 outpatient antibody infusion treatments. Now, we are challenged with a great balance of continuing to care for the COVID-19 patient population and proving to those who have delayed care that it is safe to seek medical treatment, resume routine prevention measures, and have procedures your doctor says you need.

The year 2020 will forever be marked as an unprecedented time for all of us in so many ways. I am proud to say that because of the dedication of the entire team at Anderson, we have not merely endured, we have prevailed.

Prewitt Named 2020 Citizen of the Year

Courtesy of The Meridian Star

Dr. Lindsey Prewitt, medical director of Hospitalist Services for Anderson Regional Medical Center, was named 2020 Citizen of the Year by The Meridian Star.

She notes that 2020 has been a difficult year, but each time “Here Comes the Sun” plays on the overhead speakers as a COVID-19 patient is discharged, she knows there is hope. “Those sorts of wins are enough to keep you going until there is another win,” she said, “and it is really important to all of us working in healthcare to have those wins.”

For the year Dr. Prewitt, like other healthcare workers and hospital staff in the community, has been battling against Covid-19 and putting herself at risk to give patients the best shot at surviving this deadly disease.

Because their efforts have really made a difference, Dr. Prewitt was named one of the 2020 Meridian Star Citizens of the Year.

“I was very surprised and shocked and honored to be named Citizen of the Year,” said Dr. Prewitt. “There are so many people who I have watched do good work and bring good attitudes to the hospital every day over the past year so, in my mind, I am acknowledging this on behalf of each and every one of them.”

Dr. Prewitt was never convinced at a young age that medical school was in her future despite having a father

who was a doctor and a mother who was a school counselor.

“As I finished my degree in biology at Wake Forest (University), I needed to plan what the next step was going to be,” she recalled. “As I was looking



into things like research careers and genetics, I just kept thinking that I would rather be the doctor.”

She ended up deciding in her senior year of college that medical school was the route she was going to take.

“It turned out to be a good intersection between what I loved about science and what I loved about people and my desire to help people, which was always going to be an important part of my career,” she added.

Dr. Prewitt graduated from UNC

School of Medicine at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 1997. She completed an internship at Washington University and has received board certification from the American Board of Internal Medicine.

She worked as an internal medicine specialist and hospitalist in Arkansas before moving to Meridian about 10 years ago when her husband, Kendrick Prewitt, joined the faculty at the University of West Alabama as an English professor. He currently serves as chair of the Department of Language and Literature.

Dr. Prewitt has worked as a hospitalist at Anderson Regional Medical Center since arriving in Meridian and now serves as medical director of Hospitalist Services.

The past 12 months have been a frightening year, a dark year and a learning year for everyone working in healthcare.

To help her relieve stress after a challenging day at the hospital, Dr. Prewitt loves to read, especially mystery series. She walks her dog. She also recently re-taught herself how to knit, a hobby she first learned in college.

“I had a few hours, and I thought, ‘I wonder if I can still do that,’” she said. “I could not still do that, but I re-learned how to do it.”

She believes the new year has been a time for a lot of people, regardless of their field, to step back, take a deep breath, and think about “What can I

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Prewitt Citizen of the Year

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do? What do I have time to do now that I didn't have time to do before? And that is what led me to the knitting," she laughed.

Dr. Prewitt also enjoys spending time with her husband and children. The couple's eldest son, James, 20, is a sophomore at Tulane University. Daughter Caroline is a senior at Lamar School, and youngest son, Henry, 13, is a seventh grader at Northwest Middle School.

"My husband and kids have been very important to me and a constant source of love and entertainment," she said. "They have taken on more responsibilities around the house ... and that has been a big help to me."

Dr. Prewitt said she is remaining cautiously optimistic about 2021.

"Just having a vaccine is such a remarkable scientific achievement to have done that so quickly," she said.

Dr. Prewitt felt overjoyed after receiving her first dose of the vaccine because she felt a little relief knowing her personal risks are now lower.

"It was just such a feeling of joy when I got that first shot," she said. "Even though it is not going to change what I do. I am still going to have masks falling out of every pocket. I will still have to be careful not to carry this to someone else.

"But knowing my personal risks are lower has really been a blessing," she added. "I am hoping that as the vaccine is distributed widely, then everybody can have that comfort, especially grandparents and older people who I think, as a demographic, have been the best at following the rules about social distancing and masking. They have been so isolated, so hopefully we will be able to enlarge our bubble pretty soon.

"Of course, no prediction I have made about Covid has been right," she said. "But I know that God is good, and things will be okay."



From left, Marilyn Bell, Director of Laboratory, Jason Dearman, Laboratory Manager and Dana Brohaugh, MBS Marketing Representative.

Anderson Given MS Blood Services "Best" Award

COVID-19 made 2020 one of the most challenging years in modern history. There is little doubt that it has changed our society and impacted our health system. But while it may have been the "leading villain" in 2020, it was not the only "monster" Mississippi patients faced.

Anderson Regional Health System recognized that a new virus, no matter how deadly, did not cancel out all other life-threatening illnesses and injuries. While this new threat did not call for blood infusions, there were still patients who needed blood and blood products, and they could not be neglected just because they were not victims of the pandemic.

When other organizations closed their doors and said no to blood drives, Anderson said "YES!" and held nine drives, collecting close to 300 life-saving units of blood. Anderson proved to be a loyal supporter of Mississippi Blood Services in 2020 and that is why they are one of MBS's Best of 2020.

Scarless Hysterectomy Offered by Dr. Trest

Women who are considering a hysterectomy now have a new totally scarless surgical option at Anderson Regional Medical Center. Dr. Elizabeth Trest of Meridian OB-GYN is performing the advanced gynecologic technique known as vNOTES (Vaginal Natural Orifice Transluminal Endoscopic Surgery), the state's first surgeon to do so.

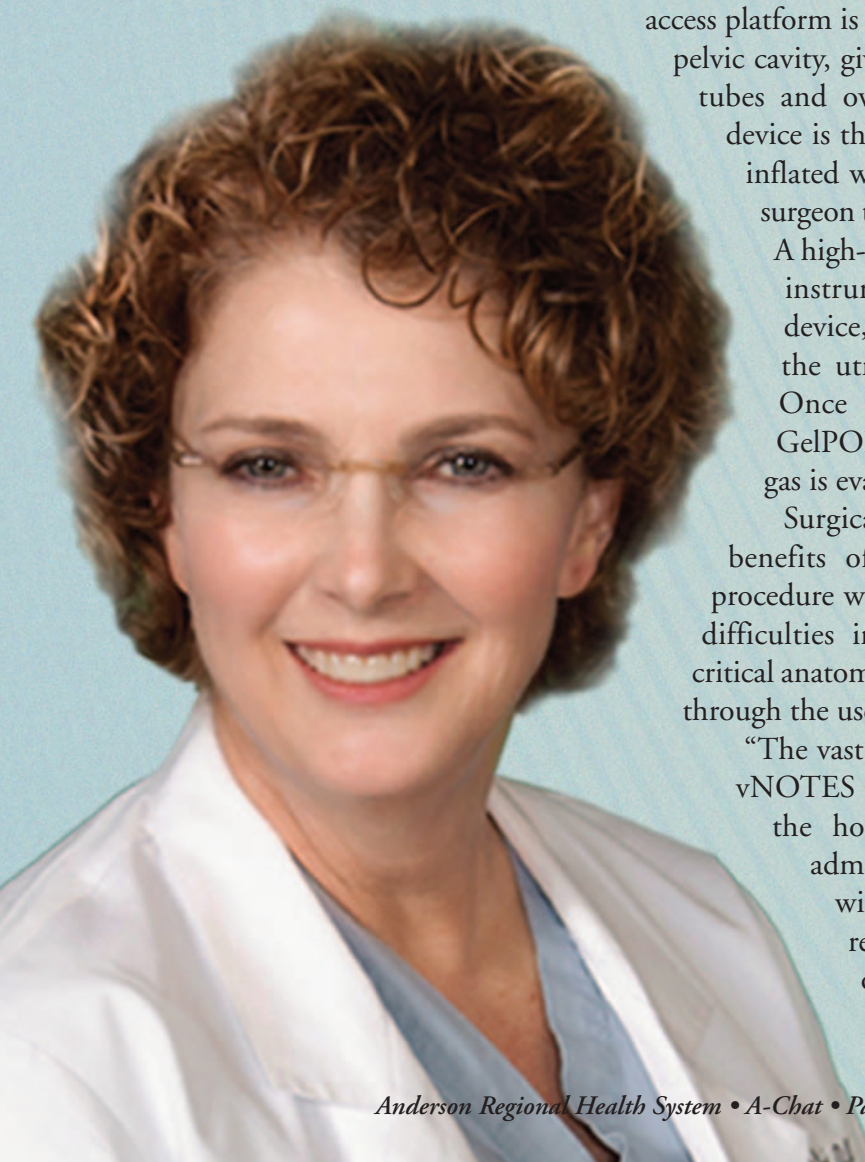
Dr. Trest has been specially trained on this innovative approach to hysterectomy that she says enhances the patient's experience.

"As a surgeon, I am continually seeking training opportunities to offer the most advanced techniques to my patients," said Dr. Trest. "Because it is a less invasive option than laparoscopic or traditional hysterectomy, vNOTES provides many benefits to my patients including less time in the hospital, faster recovery, decreased pain and no visible scarring."

The vNOTES technique, which uses the vagina as a surgical access route, is the newest approach to hysterectomy procedures. For the surgery, a vNOTES device known as the GelPOINT® V-Path transvaginal access platform is placed through the vagina into the pelvic cavity, giving access to the uterus, fallopian tubes and ovaries. The GelPOINT® V-Path device is the means by which the abdomen is inflated with carbon dioxide gas to give the surgeon the space needed to see and operate. A high-definition camera and laparoscopic instruments are inserted through the device, allowing surgeons to operate with the utmost precision and visualization. Once the surgery is completed, the GelPOINT® V-Path is removed and the gas is evacuated.

Surgical societies have long-seen the benefits of vaginal hysterectomy, but the procedure was rarely performed because of the difficulties involved in seeing and accessing critical anatomy. vNOTES solves these challenges through the use of innovative technology.

"The vast majority of patients who have the vNOTES hysterectomy will be able to leave the hospital the same day they were admitted. I know many of my patients will appreciate the fact that they can return to their busy lives more quickly and get back to what matters most," said Dr. Trest.



DAISY AWARDS



January

Julie Cade, RN

Julie Cade, RN, who works in Anderson Regional Birth Center, was recognized as the DAISY Award recipient for the month of January. One of Julie's patients wrote her nomination which read: "Julie displays the type of empathy and compassion that every healthcare worker should have. She cried with me and comforted me through my two-day stay. She went above and beyond to make sure that I was comfortable. Just seeing her every morning and having her there to make me laugh took my mind off such a devastating issue. Julie deserves this award so much. She exemplifies every aspect of this DAISY award!"



February

Julious Heidelberg, RN

Julious Heidelberg, RN, who serves as Nurse Manager of 5-East, was recognized as the DAISY Award recipient for the month of February. One of Julious' coworkers wrote his nomination, which read: "As we entered the nationwide pandemic that changed life as we once knew it, Julious continued to uphold our mission to continue our heritage of healing and improve life for the people we serve. As Charge Nurse, he demonstrated a great level of responsiveness as our unit adjusted from taking pediatric patients to strictly COVID positive patients. In this time of uncertainty, Julious willingly accepted the Nurse Manager position of a new floor and led this team with respect and trust. His staff is a phenomenal reflection of his helpfulness, flexibility and care. Julious displays professionalism in all he does and he is always readily available to accept new tasks in an effort to carry out our vision to be the healthcare provider of choice."



March

Lydia Burns, RN

Lydia Burns, RN, who works in Anderson Regional Birth Center, was recognized as the DAISY Award recipient for the month of March. The family of one of Lydia's patients wrote her nomination, which read: "Lydia was so very helpful, kind, compassionate, knowledgeable and comforting. She had a smile on her face every time she entered the room. She explained what she was doing, and why she was doing it. It did not matter how many times she was called, she never seemed to be frustrated or upset. Being new parents, we had lots of questions and concerns. Lydia listened to every question and never failed to answer each. She used every opportunity to educate while she was there. It was so obvious Lydia loves what she does! Her expertise and obvious love for what she does clearly showed in that 12-hour shift."

IF YOU **SEE** | **SAY** something | something

**STRANGE PACKAGES, OUT-OF-PLACE INDIVIDUALS, LOITERING,
A DOOR THAT SHOULD BE CLOSED OR EVEN ODD ODORS**

601.553.6677

Anderson has instituted a “See Something, Say Something” policy. While our doors are open and the public is welcome, it is imperative for all individuals working or visiting the facility to keep an eye out for suspicious behavior. This can include abandoned vehicles, out of place individuals, loitering, strange packages or even unusual odors.

Every individual serves as a valuable resource in the fight against crime, suspicious activity or unsafe conditions within the facility or on the hospital campuses. We take seriously our collective obligation to contribute to personal safety and the wellness of others. One way to do this is to understand the importance of being aware of our surroundings and always reporting suspicious activity through the appropriate channels.

When and why should you say something if you see something? Aside from the obvious — such as when someone seems unusually agitated or angry — there are several things to watch for:

- Unusual items or situations: A vehicle is parked in an odd location, unattended luggage or packages, an open window or door that is usually closed – these are just a few examples.

- Eliciting information: Be wary of people with questions that go beyond mere curiosity, especially inquiries about operations, security procedures and/or personnel or shift changes.

- * Observation/surveillance: Watch out for someone paying unusual attention to facilities or cars beyond a casual or professional interest. This includes extended loitering without explanation, unusual, repeated, and/or prolonged observation of a building, walking in repeated patterns, looking in cars, or acting strangely.

When reporting suspicious activity have a clear description of what the activity is; the location; a description of the individual(s) involved; the date, time and duration of the activity; and the vehicle color, make and license plate number if a vehicle is associated with the action, etc.

Security is a shared responsibility and the more we work together, the safer the hospital and clinic environments can be. We can't stress it enough: if you encounter someone or something that seems out of place or strange, say something. You're not bugging us. We want you to let us know.

Baggett Named Emergency Response Coordinator

Steve Baggett has joined the Anderson team as Emergency Response Coordinator. As our ERC, Steve's responsibilities include an "all hazards" approach to emergency management that supports a level of preparedness in a range of emergencies for all our facilities.

Steve comes to Anderson with more than 10 years of experience, having served as Emergency Management Director of Newton County and Emergency Response Coordinator with MS State Department of Health in Meridian. His expertise in emergency response will benefit our organization during the mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery during disasters.



Dubose New Swing Bed Nurse Manager

Courtney Dubose, RN, FNP, has been named Swing Bed Unit Nurse Manager at Anderson - South.

Courtney, who has been an Anderson employee since 2014, earned her Master's degree in nursing in 2020, becoming a Family Nurse Practitioner.

She earned her LPN at East Central Community College, then her AA degree in Applied Science from Pearl River Community College. In 2015, she earned her Bachelor of Science degree in nursing from the University of Southern Mississippi.

Courtney attends Little Zion Baptist Church in Collinsville and is the mother of two daughters, DeNiyah and Kynlee. She is the daughter of the Rev. Rodney and Mrs. Pamela Yarbrough.



Johnson Takes Nurse Manager Role

Sabrina Johnson, RN, has accepted the position of Nurse Manager for the Tom C. Maynor Rehabilitation Unit. Sabrina has more than 20 years of experience in medical surgery, acute and long-term care acute specialties.

She earned her AA in nursing from Meridian Community College in 1992, and is currently enrolled in the Bachelor of Science, Nursing, program at William Carey College.

Sabrina is married and has two children, who are 26 and 24.



Howell Named Director of Imaging Services

David Howell, BSRS, has accepted the position as Director of Imaging Services at Anderson Regional Medical Center. David received his Bachelor of Science in Radiologic Sciences from the Adventist University of Health Sciences in Orlando Florida, in 2013, after obtaining his AA degree from Meridian Community College in 1991.

While at Anderson's, his credentials have included TeamSTEPPS Master Trainer and Healthcare Lean Certified. He has also been active in the Leadership Lauderdale program.

David's professional associations include the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists, American Society of Radiologic Technologists and The Association for Medical Imaging Management.



Waltman Appointed to Manager Position

Jonathan Waltman has been appointed Radiology Manager at Anderson Regional Medical Center. Jonathan has been employed with Anderson for 15 years, working all of that time in Interventional Radiology. He was also the Interventional Supervisor for many years.



Kristi Walters Receives CCRN Certification

Kristi Walters has qualified as a certified Critical Care Registered Nurse after passing a rigorous exam. CCRN nurses provide direct care to acutely/critically ill adult patients regardless of their physical location. The certification is a credential granted by the American Association of Critical-Care Nurses Certification Corporation.



WIN THIS RIDING MOWER!

ONLINE SILENT AUCTION

PROCEEDS BENEFIT CANCER PATIENT BENEVOLENCE FUND



It's easy to make a bid! Just email: lawnmower@andersonregional.org with your bid in the subject line. Check AndersonRegional.org daily for the current bid. Auction ends Monday, April 19, at 4 p.m.

RETIREES



Joyce Peters

Joyce Peters has retired from Anderson Regional Health System after 31 years of dedicated service. Joyce served as the secretary in the cardiac catheterization lab for her entire career at Anderson. Her friends and coworkers described Joyce as caring, a hard worker, passionate about her job and extremely knowledgeable about all facets of the unit. Joyce is pictured with Denton Farr, Vice President of Operations.



Sharon Cox

Sharon Cox had a career that spanned 31 years with Anderson Regional Health System when she retired. Her career began in the Business Office, then she served in Admissions and finally in Human Resources. In HR she held several positions, including Employment Coordinator, Recruiter and Business Partner. Her friends and coworkers describe Sharon as a dedicated employee who is always willing to help and take on any task to support the department. Sharon will be missed for her gentle, sweet spirit and her commitment to helping employees at every turn. With Sharon is Steven Brown, Chief Financial Officer.

IN MEMORIAM

Anderson held a virtual Memorial Service in February to honor those we lost in 2020. To view the service go to the InfoCenter and click the link under News and Events.



Shelby Bell
Operating Room Technician



Dr. Willard Mosier
Emergency Medicine Physician



Rhonda Tasso, RN
Horizons Geri-Psych Unit

2021 MEDICAL STAFF



Muzaffar Rahat, MD
Chief of Staff
Internal Medicine
Meridian Medical Associates



William Billups III, MD
Past Chief of Staff
General Surgery
Medical Arts Surgical Group



Hans Tulip, MD
Vice Chief of Staff
General Surgery
Medical Arts Surgical Group



Daniel McKiever, MD
Secretary
Obstetrics & Gynecology
Women's Medical Center
of Meridian



James Wallace, MD
Chief of Surgery
Urology
Anderson Urology
Clinic of Meridian



Shea Hailey, DO
Chief of Medicine
Cardiology
Cardiovascular Institute
of the South

Annual Masquerade Sale Raises Funds for Volunteer Auxiliary



From left, Laura Jordan, Joy Grant-Walters,
Jenny Hertel and Glenda "Gigi" Cross.



From left, Paula Brubaker, Jenny Hertel
and Sandie Blackwell.

Truckin' to Honor Cancer Patient

It's not every day that a patient's husband designs an 18 wheeler truck in honor of her as she is undergoing cancer treatment, but Clent Herrington did just that. Herrington (far left in first picture), Fleet Manager at Philadelphia Energy Transportation Company (PETCO), brought the truck by to show his wife's radiation oncologist, Dr. Caleb Dulaney (right of Herrington), and the Anderson Regional Cancer Center team during her last treatment.

The specialized International truck, named "Ms. Gayle," will be used to transport fuel throughout the Southeast. Prince Oil Company/PETCO will be donating a portion of their proceeds to the Cancer Patient Benevolence Fund at Anderson.



Blood Drive

A recent blood drive at Anderson, in conjunction with Mississippi Blood Services, registered 57 people and drew 64 units. Pictured are Morgan and Kyle Irby. Kyle is a first-time donor. Because of the blood drive, MBS will be able to help close to 200 Mississippi patients.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL EVENTS

Wear Red Day in February

Anderson kicked off National Heart Month in February by joining the American Heart Association in recognizing Friday, February 5, as Wear Red Day. Our staff showed their support to help raise awareness of the leading killer of women in the United States, cardiovascular disease



You Gotta Have Heart

On Valentine's Day, it is especially important to have heart, as Dr. Thomas Plavac demonstrates. With him is Wanda Cooper, Vice President, Professional Services.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL EVENTS

Nutritionists Recognized

On Registered Dietitian Nutritionist Day, Anderson celebrated our dynamic team who translate the science of nutrition into practical solutions for healthy living. From left are Corinna Dorais, Allison Mason, Karla Bailey, Haley Bonner, Barbie Rawson, Rhonda Powell and Sky Joiner (Clinical Nutrition Manager) and Denise Roberts.

Not pictured: Laura Hodge.



Social Worker Month

The month of March marked the incredible work of social workers across the United States. Social workers play a vital role in improving the well-being and overall health of patients. Celebrating social worker month are, back row, from left: LaMonica Little, Carolyn Russell, Brenda Viverette and Amber Tubby. Front row, from left: Marlee Rhodes and Erin Barnes. Not pictured: Tabitha Hampton.



St. Patrick's Day Cheer

Spreading St. Patrick's Day cheer by delivering green cookies to all staff members were, from left: Dr. Keith Everett, Betty Cryer, John G. Anderson, Wanda Cooper, Bonnie Parker and Sharon Futch. Not pictured: Denton Farr and Steven Brown



Celebrating CRNA Week

Anderson celebrated the outstanding work of our Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists during CRNA week. This group is tireless in their work on the front lines of patient care.



Medical Billers Recognized

Anderson recently celebrated National Medical Billers Day. Medical billers play a vital role in health organizations by submitting and following up on claims with health insurance companies to ensure payments are received for rendered services.



RECOGNIZING NATIONAL EVENTS



Doctors' Day

Anderson celebrated 2021 Doctors' Day with some amazing decorations throughout the Anderson campuses.



GENEROUS DONATIONS



Church Donates Goodie Bags

Thank you to Poplar Springs Drive United Methodist Church's Genesis Sunday School class for donating goodie bags to our front line staff. The staff especially loved the colorful drawings and inspirational messages of thanks from the PSDUMC Day School Giraffe Class.



Northeast Elementary Says Thank You

A big thank you to Northeast Elementary School students who sent us signs of encouragement.



Leadership Youth Donate Toys

Thank you to the Leadership Lauderdale Youth for collecting and donating an abundance of toys for our pediatric patients. From left, Breona Rivers, RN; Chloe Woodall; Jenisha Owens; Madison Carr; Mallory Lewis; and Olivia Boleware, RN. Not pictured: Catherine Freeman.



Clarkdale HOSA Delivers Goodie Bags

Clarkdale's Health Occupation Students of America (HOSA) donated goodie bags to our front-line staff. HOSA members wanted to show their appreciation and thank the staff for their hard work. Our staff were genuinely touched by this heartwarming gesture.



MS Power Connects

Thank you to Mississippi Power Company's Community Connection group for providing Jump Start specialty beverages to our employees.

SERVICE EXCELLENCE AWARDS

The following departments/centers had the highest increase in their overall score in 2020 (January – December).



Breast Center



Swing Bed Unit



Cardiac Surgical Associates



5-East

Mission

To continue our heritage of healing and improving life for the people we serve.



Kristi Walters, RN, is a Registered Nurse who has worked at Anderson for 11 years. She is currently working in the ICU. Her coworkers said, “Kristi is a hard worker that takes great care of her patients. • She takes great pride in her work and goes above and beyond to ensure that the patient’s needs as well as the family’s needs are met. She is always willing to educate new nurses as well as serve as a preceptor. • She goes the extra mile to try and bring out the best in not only her team or the unit, but also Anderson as a whole. Kristi is committed to keeping up to date with continuing education in order to practice the best standards of care for her patients. • Kristi spent her off day on Christmas Eve dressed up as the Grinch and went floor to floor to help brighten the staff’s day.” In her spare time, Kristi enjoys reading, learning new things and figuring out complex problems. She loves to laugh and loves to make other people laugh, even if they are laughing at her. Seeing people smile and show pure joy is one of her great joys. Kristi is very involved with her two children and serves as president of the West Lauderdale Band Boosters. She is married to her teenage sweetheart, and they are members of Cornerstone Church of God.

Vision

To be the healthcare provider of choice.



Jeff Irby, RT, is a Respiratory Therapist who has worked at Anderson for 18 years. His coworkers said, “Jeff is very dependable, trustworthy, respectful, and flexible. • He is motivated and driven to take care of his patients to the best of his ability. Jeff always checks on his coworkers to see if

there is anything that he can help them with. • At a moment’s notice, he will stay over and help the oncoming night shift when they are short-handed. • Jeff is a great teacher and shares his experience with younger staff members to help them gain knowledge in our field. • He is a model employee and we are so glad he is part of the respiratory team.” In his spare time, Jeff enjoys working out, going to church, and spending time with family. He and his wife of 18 years, Penny, have a daughter named Victoria.

Values

We recognize: Respect, Trust, Dignity and Responsiveness.



Sheryl Boone is the Assistant to the Directors of Environment of Care and Emergency Management and has worked at Anderson for 33 years. Her coworkers said, “I feel there is no one more deserving of this award than Sheryl. • She has always done what is asked of her no matter what. She is the type or person who takes on a project and is willing to go above and beyond the original task. • She is always willing to give a helping hand to anyone. During the pandemic, Sheryl has served an important role on the incident command team by organizing meetings, taking minutes, and staying on top of tasks that need to be handled as a result of the discussions. • Sheryl is irreplaceable and a huge asset not only to our department but to the organization as a whole.” In her spare time, Sheryl enjoys being outdoors, sitting by a bonfire and cooking out with family and friends. She is a LSU tiger fan and loves the Atlanta Braves. She also enjoys remodeling and decorating her home. Sheryl loves spoiling her nieces and nephews and was a care giver for her mother who had Alzheimer’s. She is a member of Concord United Methodist Church and supports Alzheimer’s and cancer initiatives.

EMPLOYEES OF QUARTER APRIL • MAY • JUNE



Mission

To continue our heritage of healing and improving life for the people we serve.



Carol Jones, RN, is the Charge Nurse on 2-East and she has worked at Anderson for 22 years. Her coworkers said, “Carol goes above and beyond to make sure the job gets done. • She is always willing to do whatever is needed and most often does things without being asked. • She takes her job very seriously and works to ensure the patients receive the best care available. • Carol is always very dependable and deserves this award 10 times a year, she is one of the most caring considerate people that I know. She helps people daily, even if it means she has to stay late to complete her responsibilities. She does so without hesitating.” In her spare time, Carol enjoys traveling with her husband, going on cruises, reading, working in her yard, going to the beach, and attending church at Trinity Baptist. She and her husband, Josh, have been married for 20 years and they have a fur baby who will be 15 in May.

Vision

To be the healthcare provider of choice.

Candace Davis, CPT, Candace Davis is a Certified Pharmacy Technician who works in the Inpatient Pharmacy as the Discharge Medication Tech. She heads up our Meds-to-Beds program and helps patients receive their prescriptions prior to being discharged from the hospital. Her coworkers said, “Candace is most deserving; she has been the driving force behind the success of our Meds-to-Beds program. • She independently developed an informational pamphlet, the script for patient interviews and identified the units for the program to be most successful. • She has shown great vision for what the program could and should be and has then done the work necessary to bring it to fruition. • Candace shows teamwork and always comes to work with a great attitude. During the pandemic, she served as the COVID unit pharmacy tech and rose to the occasion. • We could not have made it without her dedication, team work and positive attitude.” In her spare time, Candace is pursuing her bachelor’s degree in business administration at MSU-Meridian.



Values

We recognize: Respect, Trust, Dignity and Responsiveness.



Sharonda Hopson is a Medical Staff Administrative Assistant who has worked at Anderson for two- and a-half-years. Her coworkers said, “Sharonda is so deserving of this recognition. • Not only does she serve as a vital part of the Medical Staff Office, but she also assists so many other departments on a daily basis. She is a true Anderson Team Player — never complains and always willing to help with whatever is needed. Sharonda is such a helpful and cheerful person. • She greets everyone with a smile. She is very professional in her interaction with physicians and coworkers. • Sharonda goes the extra mile to meet the needs of others and spreads joy to everyone she encounters.” In her spare time, Sharonda enjoys spending time with her husband and two children, reading, travelling, cooking and decorating. She and her family attend Macedonia Primitive Baptist Church where her husband is the pastor.