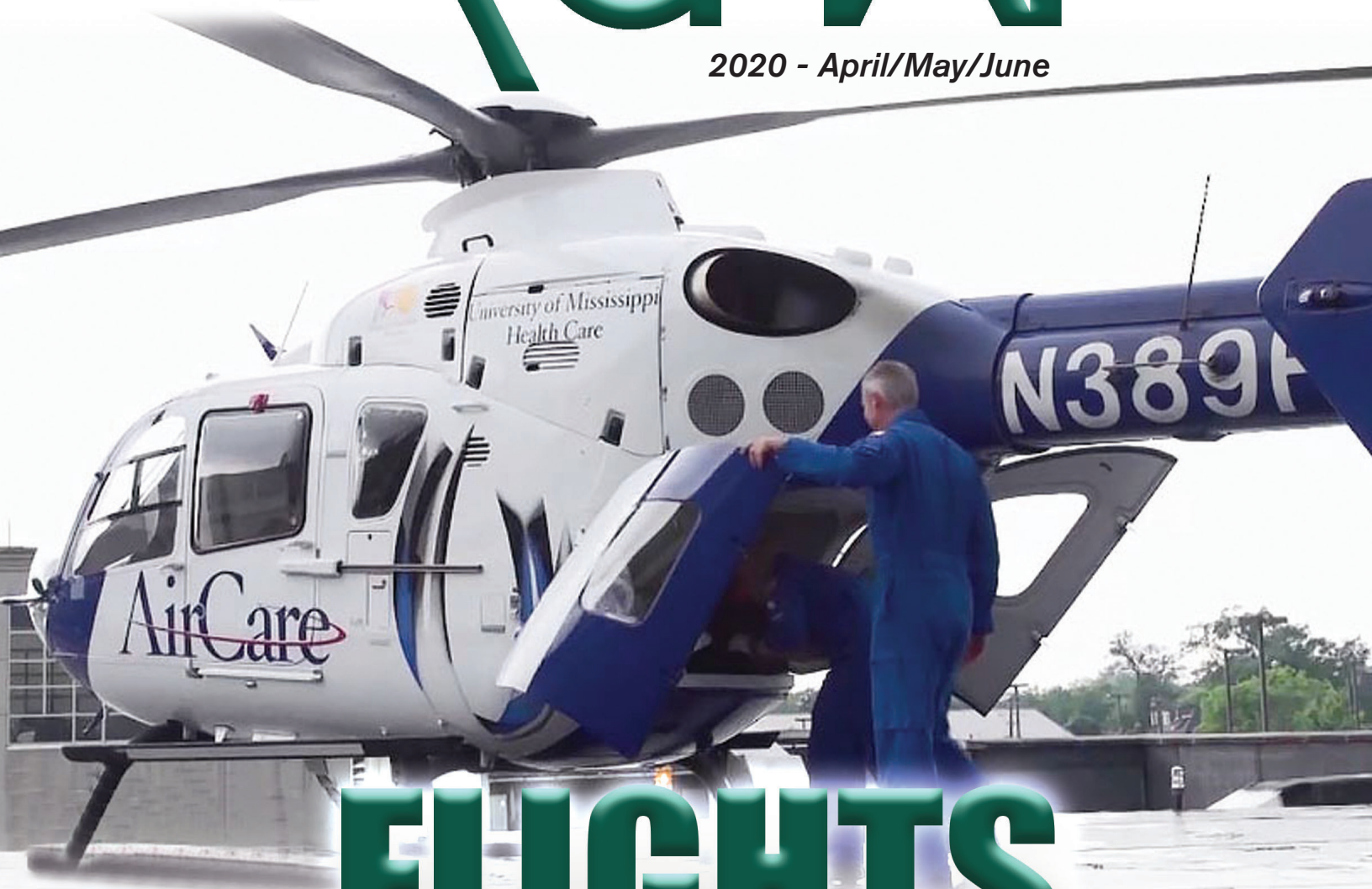




ANDERSON
Regional Health System

ACHAT

2020 - April/May/June



FLIGHTS FOR LIFE

**Our partnership with UMMC
provides next-level trauma care.**

Unique Partnership Provides Next-Level Care

If Meridian-area residents experience a traumatic injury or illness that requires a high level of critical care, two health care providers have their backs.

Anderson Regional Medical Center and the University of Mississippi Medical Center's AirCare medical helicopter transport are enhancing their regional health care partnership so more patients in need of trauma care can receive it locally from Anderson's critical care team.

If a patient requires the higher level of care that only the state's sole academic medical center can provide, AirCare — UMMC's four-helicopter medical transport program — will fly them to UMMC's Jackson-based hospitals in coordination with Anderson caregivers.

"We are actively supporting Anderson's trauma program with an initiative to keep more patients in Meridian for their medical management," said Dr. Damon Darsey, an emergency medicine physician and Medical Director of UMMC's Mississippi Center for Emergency Services. "We are partnering with the Meridian community's local emergency responders as well.

"We've cared for unanticipated survivors over the last decade due to the dynamic relationship we've built in the Meridian area," Darsey said. "UMMC is providing clinical support, protocols and policies to keep patients local — but also providing the highest level of care possible in medical transport."

Working hand-in-hand with UMMC and AirCare "extends our ability to care for trauma patients locally whenever we can," said Dr. Hans Tulip, a trauma surgeon and Anderson's Trauma Medical Director.

"If we do need to transfer them, we are able to work in a way that is reliable and

quick," Tulip said. "Having that ability to get patients to a facility that can take care of their problems in areas where we don't have specialists is one of the components of the trauma system."

In 2017, Anderson and UMMC announced a new affiliation to enable more area residents to stay close to home for treatment. It brings the medical education, research and advanced health care offerings of UMMC to Anderson's two hospitals, cancer center and outpatient clinics, which are already established as a comprehensive system in East Mississippi and West Alabama.

The pairing of Mississippi's most advanced medical air transport with 400-bed Anderson is personal for AirCare critical care flight nurse ShyAnn King. King's late sister, LeAnna Stubbs, was in a horrific auto accident years ago in a small Alabama town.

"At every point, the system failed her," King said. "She needed an ultrasound right then. She needed blood. The medics that worked on her at the scene didn't figure out for three hours that she was bleeding to death internally.

"All the helicopter offered her that day was a fast ride," King said. "She left a one-year-old child with no mother and father, because her husband had died in an earlier accident."

With bases in Meridian, Greenwood, Jackson and Columbus, AirCare brings the capabilities of an intensive care unit to sick patients, no matter where they are. AirCare partners with Med-Trans for its pilots, equipment and helicopter maintenance.

"When you see a helicopter arrive, you expect them to bring something to the table that's not available at the time for you or your family member," King said. "AirCare absolutely does that. You are getting a Level I Trauma Center at your bedside or a ditch. We

Unique Partnership

start resuscitation in that ditch.”

With two campuses, Anderson is the only Meridian-area hospital that has its own helipad. The partnership between Anderson and UMMC dates back to 2016, but the enhanced relationship expands educational and clinical components from providers at UMMC, which has Mississippi’s only Level I trauma designation and the state’s only Level IV neonatal intensive care unit.

One example: Anderson and UMMC are implementing an initiative to help ensure very sick or traumatically injured patients have a seamless transition in the delivery of blood and blood products, especially patients with massive bleeds that require the infusion of multiple units of blood.

“When we pick up a patient and deliver that patient to Anderson, our crew works with Anderson’s front line to continue a transfusion, rather than starting it over,” Darsey said. “We focus on what patients need further down the road.”

That could include single-donor platelets or “cryo,” short for cryoprecipitate. It’s a frozen blood product prepared from blood plasma that reduces blood loss and slows or stops bleeding.

Over the last five years, AirCare’s critical care paramedics and nurses have trained more than 600 health care and emergency response employees in the East Mississippi region in medical care and resuscitative medicine. That instruction includes the use of cadavers in teaching how to insert a chest tube or to intubate a patient.

AirCare is equipped to do procedures no other medical air transport in Mississippi can do, including utilization of ultrasound to determine what trauma patients can remain locally for care and which need to receive the level of care only available in the state at UMMC. It’s the only medical helicopter transport to carry the drug KCentra, used to reverse blood thinners in patients experiencing massive bleeding.

AirCare’s Meridian base at Key Field Airport, a part of MCES, began serving East Central Mississippi in 2009. The base houses a 24/7 medical crew who fly in a H-135, twin-engine, medically configured craft.

Combining forces to save bleeding patients “is ongoing evidence of the continued improvement in our relationship,” Tulip said. “We can improve patient outcomes when we collaborate together. That’s awesome.”



Carney Retires

Congratulations to Fay Carney, RN, on her retirement from Anderson Regional Health System. Fay’s career at Anderson spanned 31 years where she worked on the Med/Surg floor and in Surgery. Her friends and coworkers describe Fay as cheerful, kind, conscientious and a hard worker who has always been dedicated to being the best nurse that she could be. She will be greatly missed at Anderson. Pictured with Fay (right) is Wanda Cooper, Vice President of Professional Relations.



Vaughn Retires

Congratulations to Fanci Vaughn, RN, for 41 years of service to Anderson and her patients. Fanci was the Nurse Manager of 5-East and was a very strong, hard-working Nurse Manager who “ran a tight ship.” Novice nurses and experienced nurses who were blessed to have worked with Ms. Fanci described her as a patient advocate, a nurse educator and a second-mother to her staff. She mentored many physicians and nurses in her career and her knowledge and skills were highly respected.

#STANDING TOGETHER

Anderson Regional Health System has always stood ready to provide safe, compassionate health care. That readiness was put to the test when we admitted our first patient with COVID-19 on March 25 of this year. And as the pandemic stretches further into 2020, we will continue to be a leader in providing advanced medical care for every health issue.

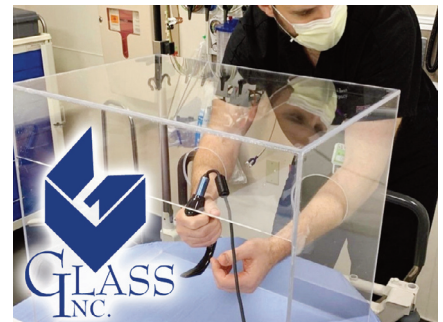
“Anderson remains one of — if not the safest — cleanest places you can go right now, especially for medical emergencies,” said John G. Anderson, President and CEO.

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 — for all procedures. “We have real-world expertise in handling infections,” said Dr. Keith Everett, Chief Medical Officer. Masks, gloves, temperature checks, restricted areas and innovative items such as intubation shields are in place. And will continue to be.

The outpouring of community support was incredible during the first months of the pandemic. From individuals like Marty and Linda Davidson providing gift cards for meals in the cafeteria to masks sewn and donated by several organizations, everyone at Anderson was encouraged and uplifted by how much the community pulled together during the crisis.

COVID-19 will be with us for the foreseeable future, but Anderson “stands together” with its staff and the public in continuing to provide safe, compassionate care for any healthcare need.

“All of our enhanced safety precautions and procedures will be in place as long as needed to protect our staff and patients. Our mission has always been to improve the lives of the people we serve, and we want everyone to feel safe here, like they always have,” said Anderson.



Helping Newborn Babies



Reba Lee, RN, IBCLC (left), and Robin Butler, RN, BSN, are the team leads for “Express Yourself Mississippi.”

Anderson Regional Medical Center’s NICU is participating in “Express Yourself Mississippi,” a program focused on helping newborn babies with low birth weights. This statewide quality improvement collaborative has been adopted as an official Mississippi Perinatal Quality Collaborative quality initiative, in partnership with the University of Mississippi Medical Center and the W.K. Kellogg Foundation.

The project aims to:

- Develop permanent systems change in the NICUs to ensure increase in breastfeeding initiation and breastfeeding at one-month of life and at hospital discharge;
- Reduce racial/ethnic disparities in the provision of mother’s milk; and
- Bring together clinicians and community stakeholders who provide breastfeeding support for mothers of preterm infants or are engaged in reduction in health disparities of mothers of preterm infants.

In 2018, about 14.2% of babies in Mississippi were born premature (before 37 weeks of pregnancy). Compared to a national average of about 10%, this places the state among the top five in the rate of premature births.

About 2.3% of all live births in 2017 were born very preterm (<32 weeks GA) and 11.2% moderately preterm (32 weeks-36 weeks) compared with the national average of 1.6% and 8.3% respectively.

The problem is even greater for minorities, particularly African-American women, where the preterm birth rate is 44% higher than the rate among all other women. It is estimated that for Mississippi babies born in 2015, 63% were never breastfed, and 35% were breastfed for 6 months. Exclusive Breastfeeding duration was 24.3% at 4 weeks and 15.5% at 8 weeks. These are both low compared with the national average for exclusive breastfeeding.

P R O M O T I O N S



Julious Heidelberg, RN

Julious Heidelberg, RN, has assumed duties as Interim Nurse Manager of 2-East. Julious has worked at Anderson for the last three years as Charge Nurse and in various other roles. He currently serves as a mentor for new nurses, Unit Clinical Coordinator and is a member of the Nurse Practice Council. Julious was instrumental in transitioning 2-East and 2-West to contained COVID-19 units, as well as providing direct care to COVID-19 patients. He is certified in Pediatrics for Advanced Life Support, tuberculosis and currently pursuing Lean Certification. Julious said he is excited about his new position and is working on his Bachelor of Science in nursing this fall.



Tina Overby, RN

Tina Overby has taken over the duties as Interim Nurse Manager of 3-East. Tina has worked at Anderson for the last nine years — beginning as a student nurse and progressing to staff nurse on 5-East/Float Pool, ADT Nurse on 3-East and currently serving as Charge Nurse for the past two years. Tina also is the unit preceptor for new-hire nurses and she said she really enjoys teaching students, float staff and new hires. Tina is also certified in Advanced Life Support and tuberculosis. Tina is currently pursuing her Bachelor of Science in nursing.



Cassandra Gibbs, RN, MSN

Cassandra Gibbs, RN, MSN, has been named to the role of Interim Nurse Manager for 5-East, in addition to managing 4-East. Cassandra has several years of experience in nursing leadership.

New Security Manager Named



Anderson welcomes Marcus Irby to our staff as Security Manager. In his new position, Marcus oversees all aspects of the American Protection Service Security Team for Anderson Regional Health System.

A lifelong resident of Lauderdale County, Marcus graduated from Southeast Lauderdale High School and received his Bachelor and Master's degrees from Mississippi State University. He also has a Specialist Degree in Educational Leadership.

During his career, he was the Head Principal of Southeast Middle School from 2012-2018. In 2017, he was honored as the Lauderdale County School District Administrator of the Year. Marcus also taught at Quitman High School and Southeast Lauderdale High School and served in administrative positions at Meridian High School, Ross Collins Career and Technical Center and Southeast High School.

Marcus and his wife Lisa have two adult children. They are members of Evangel Temple Church.



Trauma Registry

In recognition of National Trauma Registry Professionals Day in May, Anderson saluted Trauma Registrar Janet Terrell, RN, ENPC, TNCC, MSNCB, for her dedication and hard work. Janet has been a registered nurse for 42 years and has served in many areas including the ICU, Telemetry and the Emergency Department. Janet took the role of Trauma Registrar in 2013 and has been a valuable asset to our trauma program. Thank you Janet!

PRAISE FOR ANDERSON

I just wanted to express my gratitude at how well everyone treated me. I came into the ER at midnight on Sunday, which would technically be Monday I guess. Every single person in the ER was so professional and very kind. I wound up needing surgery to treat my appendicitis, so I stayed overnight on the third floor. Everyone during my stay was also very professional and efficient. Thank you for taking such great care of me. It made me so proud to be a part of this great community.

—Crystin Latta



It's not every day someone takes out an ad in The Meridian Star to thank us, but we appreciate Billye G. Dendy for doing so!

5/13/20
To the Anderson Hospital ER.
Dept. I thank all of you for what
you do for me & all the patients
that enter in for your services.
On the day - Fri May 22nd I
had to come to your ER for my
left leg being swollen & painful,
you welcomed me in with a
smile & courteous service, the
Security Guard & the front desk
clerk & nurses were so kind.
All of you put yourselves in danger
everytime you walk through the
doors, & I thank you!! You guys
are so awesome, fantastic, caring
loving group of people, we thank
God for everyday. I pray for
your safety, & that God will
continue to bless all of you to
continue doing what you do!!

I especially thank Jerry
Stork D.N., P.A. who was a doctor
to me in my time of need.
He explained everything to me
& was caring & concerning
about my problem with
my leg. I thank everyone
who cared for me, nurses,

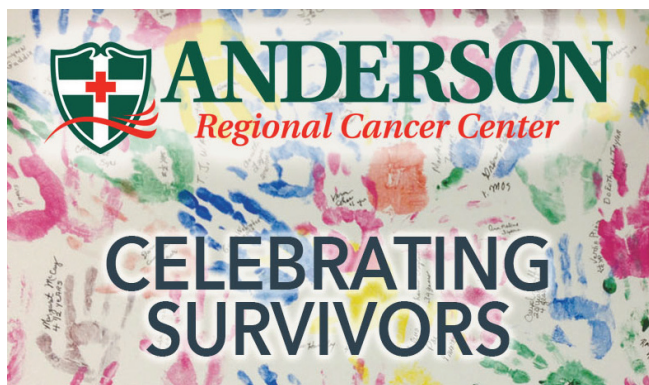
It was very much appreciated.

Lab tech, x-ray tech & others.
I was scared to come, but
you all made me feel more
at ease. Again thank you Mr
Stork for your care, all of
you are one in a million.
May I continue to
protect & Bless you in a
very special way. I did follow
up with my Dr. I will love all
of you, always!! Patient
Sugrtha Young



\$1,200 Donation

Anderson Regional Cancer Center's Cancer Patient Benevolence Fund received a donation of \$1,200 from Amanda Cassell through the sale of her Give Hope Designs artwork. Thank you to Amanda and all who participated in the sale! Pictured with Amanda (right) is Ginny Ruffin.



A Virtual Celebration

At Anderson Regional Cancer Center, we are continuously inspired and encouraged by the strength of our patients. We traditionally celebrate them on National Cancer Survivor Day with our "Handprints of Hope" canvas, but this year, we asked them to send in a photo with their years of survivorship for a virtual celebration. We were pleased with the response. If you would like to see the video, go to our website.



Giving Much Needed Blood

Anderson and Mississippi Blood Services held a Community Blood Drive two days in June and collected more than 60 units of blood thanks to an outstanding community response. Pictured donating blood for the first time is Hannah Goodman (left) and Melia Goodman, her Mom and Nurse Manager of ICU/CCU at Anderson.



Roberts Graduates

Congratulations to Cleve Roberts, Chief Technologist/Supervisor of Imaging services. Cleve recently graduated from AdventHealth University in Orlando, FL, with a Masters of Health Administration in Strategy and Innovation. Cleve has worked at Anderson since 1990.
