

ACHAT

2023 • July • August • September

Heart Surgery Experts... Close to Home

**Anderson Expands Heart Surgery Program
with Three Cardiothoracic Surgeons**



Dr. Athanasios Tsiouris

Dr. Ashok Coimbatore Jeyakumar

Dr. Adam N. Protos

Heart Surgery Experts... Close to Home

Anderson Regional Health System (ARHS) has expanded its heart surgery program with the addition of three cardiothoracic surgeons from University of Mississippi Medical Center. Dr. Adam Protos, Dr. Ashok Kumar Coimbatore Jeyakumar and Dr. Athanasios Tsiouris bring surgical expertise in comprehensive care for heart disease at any stage, from minimally invasive cardiac surgeries to complex heart valve replacements.

As a five-time recipient of the American College of Cardiology's Platinum Performance Achievement Award for outstanding heart attack care, ARHS places great emphasis on providing a comprehensive cardiac program for residents of East Mississippi and West Alabama. John G. Anderson, ARHS President and CEO, said, "Anderson has remained the region's leader in cardiac care for decades, and this expansion is an example of our ongoing commitment to offer advanced care at the local level. Drs. Protos, Jeyakumar and Tsiouris are expertly trained surgeons with numerous accolades and accomplishments. We are very pleased that they are providing our patients with highly skilled care for complex conditions."



Dr. Ashok Coimbatore Jeyakumar (Dr. CJ) is the Surgical Director for Advanced Coronary Revascularization & Complex Thoracic Aortic Surgeries in the Department of Surgery at UMMC. He finished his board residency in Cardiovascular and Thoracic Surgery at the Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology in India. Dr. CJ completed an Advanced Adult Cardiac Surgery Fellowship and a Trans-Catheter Aortic Valve Replacement Fellowship at Emory University Hospital in Georgia. He also completed a Robotic & Minimally Invasive Cardiac Surgery Fellowship at the Cleveland Clinic in Ohio.



Dr. Adam N. Protos is a Division Chief and Assistant Professor in the School of Medicine, Department of Surgery/Cardiothoracic at UMMC. He served as Medical Director of the Chicago Medical School before his residency in Categorical Surgery from Michigan State University and received his Fellow, Department of Cardiothoracic Surgery, from the University of Louisville in 2017. He is a member of the American Board of Thoracic Surgery, Board Certified in Thoracic Surgery.



Dr. Athanasios Tsiouris is an Assistant Professor and Attending Surgeon in the Division of Cardiac Surgery at UMMC. He received his medical degree from the University of Thessaly in Greece. He then moved to the United States where he completed a residency in General Surgery at Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit, and a residency in Cardiothoracic Surgery at Yale University School of Medicine. Dr. Tsiouris completed a fellowship in Heart, Lung Transplantation and Mechanical Circulatory Support at the Cleveland Clinic in Ohio. Dr. Tsiouris is Board Certified in General Surgery and Thoracic Surgery.

Protos, Jeyakumar and Tsiouris are working alongside nurse practitioner Sondra Odom at Anderson Cardiac Surgical Associates to provide surgical patients with pre- and post-operative care.

University of Mississippi Medical Center, the state's only academic medical center, seeks to improve the health of Mississippi's population and eliminate health disparities through education, research and patient care. UMMC encompasses seven health science schools of medicine, nursing, health related professions, dentistry, pharmacy, graduate studies and population health.



RECERTIFIED

Cardiopulmonary Rehabilitation Program

Anderson Regional Health System's cardiovascular/pulmonary rehabilitation program has been recertified by the American Association of Cardiovascular and Pulmonary Rehabilitation (AACVPR).

Regina Haralson, RN, Nurse Manager of Anderson Cardiopulmonary Rehabilitation Program, said, "As a certified program, we are recognized as leaders in the field of cardiovascular and pulmonary rehabilitation because we offer the most advanced practices available. We are proud to receive recognition for our commitment to improving our patients' quality of life."

The cardiac rehabilitation program is led by Interventional Cardiologist Dr. Michael Purvis. As the Medical Director, Dr. Purvis works closely with the staff to design individualized fitness programs for patients who have experienced a cardiovascular event such as a heart attack or coronary artery bypass graft surgery. In a similar fashion, Dr. Ed Holmes, Pulmonologist, serves as the Medical Director for pulmonary rehabilitation and oversees the development of personalized programs for patients who have respiratory conditions such as chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD). Both cardiac and

pulmonary rehabilitation programs include exercise, education, counseling, and support for patients and their families.

To earn accreditation, Anderson Cardiopulmonary Rehabilitation Program participated in an application process that requires extensive documentation of the program's practices. AACVPR Program Certification is the only peer-review accreditation process designed to review individual programs for adherence to standards and guidelines developed and published by AACVPR and other related professional societies. Each program's application is reviewed by the AACVPR Program Certification Committee, and certification is awarded by the AACVPR Board of Directors.

John G. Anderson, President and CEO of Anderson, said, "We recognized the need for a cardiopulmonary rehab program back in 1989, and Anderson has continued to serve as the area's only accredited facility that offers patients a safe and closely monitored transition to an active lifestyle. We are very proud of the staff for voluntarily submitting themselves to the rigorous certification process and applaud them for the outstanding work they do each and every day."

Photo above, back row, from left: Laporshia Ruffin, Exercise Physiologist; Dr. Ed Holmes, Pulmonary Medical Director; and Bailey Porter, Exercise Physiologist. Front row, from left: Lauren Lagrone, RN; Megan Cain, RN; and Regina Haralson, RN. (Not Pictured: Dr. Michael Purvis, Cardiac Medical Director)



Seated, from left Dr. Joe Anderson, Joanna Barney, Dr. Wes Garrison, Jan Hollingsworth Farrington, John G. Anderson, Dr. Tom Huebner, Dr. Lara Collum, and Dr. Leia Hill. Standing back from left are Trinity Farr, Robin Garner, Letasha Naylor, Marquita Brewster, Tiara Pace, Rachel McCollough, Amber Fant, and Ashley Hollman.

Anderson Awards Nursing Scholarships

Rachel McCollough is driven to help others, and that passion for caring has led her to where she is today as a student in Meridian Community College's Associate Degree Nursing Program.

McCollough, 41, of Waynesboro, is a third-semester ADN student and was one of seven MCC nursing students who received Anderson Regional Health System scholarships. The scholarships are \$2,500 each.

For 35 years, ADN students at the College have benefited from scholarships from the Meridian-based health care system. Recipients are full-time students who post grade B or better in nursing courses and have a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale. Faculty evaluations and personal essays are also used in the selection process.

At a luncheon honoring the students and guests, John Anderson, President and CEO of Anderson Regional Health System, said the College is a long-standing valued partner with the health system. MCC President Dr. Tom Huebner acknowledged the College's appreciation and thanked the health system and the individuals for whom

the scholarships are named. "These people invested their lives and livelihoods in something they strongly believed, and we get to be the recipients of that. What an honor that is," he said.

MCC Associate Vice President of Nursing and Health Care Education Dr. Lara Collum said the scholarships are impactful. "Your investment in these students makes a difference," she told the health system officials.

Though she began her college studies in the MCC Emergency Medical Technician and Paramedic programs, McCollough aspires to work in critical care nursing. "It's the thing I love the most," she said.

McCollough is the recipient of the Dr. Jeff Hollingsworth Scholarship. Dr. Hollingsworth, the grandson of Dr. Jeff Anderson, was a cardiovascular surgeon in Jackson and was instrumental in getting the Cardiac Catheterization program started in Meridian. Dr. Hollingsworth passed away in 1986. This scholarship was established in 1988 to honor Dr. Hollingsworth.

Robin Garner, 37, of Jackson, received the Dr. Jeff Anderson Scholarship. Dr. Jeff Anderson founded

Continued on Next Page

Nursing Scholarships (Continued from previous page)

Anderson Infirmary in 1928. At that time, the hospital had room to accommodate 30 patients and was staffed by three physicians and a handful of nurses. Dr. Anderson's vision for the future and his commitment to providing quality medical care for the residents in East Central Mississippi and West Central Alabama are the foundation of what has now grown to be Anderson Regional Health System, a 400-bed medical center with over 160 physicians representing more than 38 specialties. The scholarship was created in 2004 to honor Dr. Anderson.

Marquita Brewster, 39, of Meridian, was awarded the Dr. W. J. Anderson III Scholarship. Dr. Anderson was the son of Dr. William J. Anderson and the grandson of hospital founder Dr. Jeff Anderson. Dr. Anderson was a general surgeon from 1962 until his retirement in 1998. Dr. Anderson served as president and chairman of the board of directors at Jeff Anderson Regional Medical Center until his death in October 2002. This scholarship was created in 2003 to honor Dr. Anderson's visionary leadership in the hospital.

Tiara Powe, 25, of Meridian, received the Reuben S. Johnson Memorial Scholarship. Johnson began his 47-year service at Anderson Regional Medical Center in 1947. He was president and chairman of the board for 38 years. He was instrumental in the successful transformation of the hospital from a small infirmary to what became Anderson Regional Medical Center. Johnson also served as the internal management consultant from 1976 until he died

in 1994. The scholarship was created in 2007 to honor Johnson's many accomplishments.

Receiving the Dr. William J. Anderson Jr. Scholarships was Letasha Naylor, 32, of Meridian. Dr. Anderson was the son of Dr. Jeff Anderson, the founder of the hospital. Dr. Anderson served as a general surgeon at Jeff Anderson Regional Medical Center. The scholarship was created in 1988, a year after his passing, to honor the many accomplishments of Dr. Anderson.

Amber Fant, 20, of Meridian, received the William J. Gunn, Esquire, Scholarship. Gunn began his service at the medical center in 1965 as secretary to the board of directors and general counsel for the hospital. In 1967, he became a board of directors member and continued his faithful service until his death in August 2001. The scholarship was created in 2002 to honor Gunn's service to the hospital.

Ashley Hollman, 39, of Laurel, was the Anderson Board of Directors Scholarship recipient. The board works behind the scenes to ensure that Dr. Jeff Anderson's vision to give quality health care to the people of our region is carried out. Each member brings expertise in a different area that enhances the quality of care given to patients. These individuals work tirelessly and with very little recognition for their labor. The scholarship was created in 2012 to recognize the valuable contributions of each board member.

Anna Munn Bennett Scholarship Awarded

Congratulations to Meridian Community College nursing student Harley Pullin on receiving the Anna Munn Bennett Scholarship. Harley is working in the Anderson well baby/NICU this fall and is very eager to learn as much as she can. The scholarship, created by Neonatal Services, honors NICU nurse Anna Munn Bennett, who passed away in 2019. Anna is remembered as "the sweetest, kindest and most loving person. She was also an amazing mother to her daughter and an intelligent, wonderful NICU nurse. The number of people she impacted was immeasurable."



Harley Pullin, left, with Dr. Roland L. Boyd, Neonatologist.



Dr. Coker Named to Top 20 Under 40

We are so proud of Dr. Matt Coker, General Surgeon, who is one of The Meridian Star's Top 20 Under 40. Dr. Coker is a skilled surgeon who provides excellent care to his patients, and he is currently deployed to Honduras as a surgeon for the US Army. Congratulations, Dr. Coker!



Endocrinology & Diabetes Center Welcomes Dr. Lott

Dr. David Lott, a native of Meridian and graduate of West Lauderdale High School, attended medical school at William Carey University College of Osteopathic Medicine. He then completed a residency in internal medicine and a fellowship in endocrinology at University of Mississippi Medical Center. As an endocrinologist, Dr. Lott diagnoses and treats conditions affected by hormonal fluctuations such as metabolism, growth, sexual function and reproduction. Dr. Lott specializes in helping patients manage insulin, thyroid, estrogen, testosterone, adrenaline, growth hormone and more.



Cedric Ruffin Joins Express Care Clinic Team

We recently welcomed Cedric Ruffin, Physician Assistant, to Anderson Express Care Clinic. Ruffin is an experienced medical professional who has prior experience with hospital medicine and emergency medicine at Anderson Regional Medical Center. His educational accomplishments include a Doctor of Medical Science in Advanced Clinical Practice- Hospital Medicine, a Master of Science in Medicine (Physician Assistant Studies), a Master of Science in Rural Community Health and a Bachelor of Science in Biology. Ruffin specializes in diagnosing, treating and managing acute and chronic medical conditions for patients of all ages from newborn to geriatrics.



Rutland Named Director of Emergency Services

Anderson is pleased to announce Christopher Rutland as the Director of Emergency Services. Rutland is pursuing a Master Degree in Nursing Health Care Administration at the University of Mississippi Medical Center. He recently received The Board of Certification for Emergency Nursing (BCEN) Master's Scholarship from the Emergency Nurses Association Foundation. Welcome, Christopher, to the Anderson team!



Linda Ruffin Retires

Congratulations to Linda Ruffin on her retirement after serving Anderson Regional Health System for 28 years. Linda's home during her entire career at Anderson has been the Neonatal Unit, where she excelled in the care of newborns. She served as a preceptor to many nurses and was Charge Nurse on her shift. All of the Neonatal Unit staff greatly respect Linda and describe her as a caring, dependable and helpful team member. Thank you, Linda, for your dedication and service to Anderson Regional Health System and our tiniest patients! Pictured with Linda (right) is Wanda Cooper, Vice President.

B E E A W A R D S



Melissa Hamilton

Congratulations to Melissa Hamilton, Graphic Designer in the Printing and Duplication Department, who was presented with the June BEE Award! The person who nominated Melissa said, "Melissa Hamilton is a perfect example of what a BEE should be. She is one of the happiest people in our hospital. She always has a smile on her face and genuinely cares for her co-workers. She constantly looks for opportunities to help others and never turns down someone who calls for help. She is the first one to volunteer if someone mentions needing assistance and loves to participate in employee morale boosters. Recently, Melissa found out that the Accounts Payable department was going to be short staffed for several weeks. Having prior experience working in AP, she volunteered to work overtime to help. Her willingness to put in hours to train and work in this department helped keep the department afloat. As the Graphic Designer in the Print Shop, she always gets calls at the last minute for copies or forms and does her very best to get it completed in the requested time frame. Melissa noticed that there were forms being handed out to our patients that were blurry and hard to read. She offered to recreate the form and was able to provide the area with a new version that was easier to read and looked more professional for our patients. These are just a few examples of how Melissa has made our organization a better place."



Reginald "Reggie" Harris

Congratulations to Reginald "Reggie" Harris, EVS Supervisor at Anderson - South, who was recently presented with the July BEE Award! The person who nominated him said, "Reggie is always available to help and assist in any way and always approaches everything with a positive attitude and smile. He brings us linens daily and puts them up himself to ensure the job gets done. He always stops by to make sure we are okay and asks if we need anything. He addresses the needs of the facility quickly, and if no one is available, he will take care of the task himself. I've never seen him in a bad mood. His staff respects him and always speaks of him in a positive way. Reggie works hard, and he will never know how much we appreciate him! South Campus is lucky to have him!"



Bridget Spears

Congratulations to Bridget Spears, Patient Advocate, who was recently presented the August BEE Award! The person who nominated Bridget said, "While we were at lunch, Bridget noticed a young man eating who began to choke. She jumped up, ran to assist the man, asked someone to call a code, and started trying to help him. Bridget stayed by his side until she made sure he was okay. She got him water, asked if he needed to go to the emergency room and watched him to ensure he could swallow afterwards. She was so quick and professional! Bridget is the type of person I would want around if something happened to me."



DAISY AWARDS



Kimberly Swistek, RN

Congratulations to Kimberly Swistek, a Registered Nurse in the Post-Partum department, who was presented with the May DAISY Award. One of Kim's patients wrote her nomination, which read: "I was placed in the post-partum unit after my surgical procedure and was fortunate to have Kim assigned as my nurse for two nights. I would like to say every single person I interacted with was exceptional. However, Kim went above and beyond and just left me feeling in awe of her professionalism and caring nature. I had some complications during my stay and had two very long, rough nights. Poor Kim was my nurse for both of those nights, and for that alone, she deserves some sort of award. I was feeling miserable and in pain and during my time with Kim I experienced her quiet voice, calm demeanor and her funny fanny pack around her waist. You can tell that Kim was a seasoned nurse because whenever she needed something, she pulled it from her fanny pack. It was really comforting to have her at the bed side and be completely prepared. She never had to leave to run and get more supplies. She was also a constant force of calm and kindness, which put me at ease. I could see the sympathy on her face and her gentle pat on my hand whenever I felt pain. She checked on me often and also made sure my husband was comfortable and had what he needed. When I had an unexpected event occur, she jumped into action and was able to help me immediately. I didn't find out until the next day that the unit had received several patients throughout the day and had become very busy. Kim never gave me any indication that the unit was busy or that she was busy running all night long. She made me feel like I was her only patient. I will always appreciate Kim and her care and compassion, which helped me through a very difficult time. I can only wish every patient in our hospital could have a nurse like Kim."



Shydai Lewis, RN

Congratulations to Shydai Lewis, a Registered Nurse in the Centralized Staffing Office, who was presented with the June DAISY Award. One of Shydai's patients wrote his nomination, which read: "We met this young man on one of our many stays at Anderson. Let me say this young nurse has the most polite and respectful manner of any nurse who has taken care of us. Shydai is a great team player. He goes above and beyond his nursing duties. We are thankful you chose him as an employee. Keep up the good work, Nurse Shydai! You will go a long way in life. I am sure your other patients feel the same as we do."



Elizabeth "Liz" Gellatly, RN

Congratulations to Elizabeth "Liz" Gellatly, a Registered Nurse at the Tom C. Maynor Rehabilitation Center, who was recently presented with the July DAISY Award. The family of one of Liz's patients wrote her nomination, which read: "Liz has been an exceptional nurse. She has gone above and beyond to treat not only my Mother wonderfully but also my Daddy! She has treated them both like family. In the words of my Mama, Liz has a 'joyful spirit' and is 'always smiling and sweet.' She has made a difficult time so much better for all of us. She deserves this award!"

NURSE RESIDENCY PROGRAM

Each year, ARHS selects a limited number of highly qualified applicants for its premier Nurse Residency Program. If accepted, nurses have the opportunity for extensive formal training while transitioning from the classroom to bedside nursing. The program offers full pay with perks, a personal preceptor, the ability to climb the career ladder and learn about specific units, such as Critical Care, Women's Health, Perioperative, Acute and Post-Acute Care.

Pictured, first row, from left: MaKayla Thompson and Jasmin Brooks. Second row, from left: Morgan Williams, Sharika Cosme-Lopez and Lauren Bounds. Third row, from left: Shelby Smith, Camryn Parten, Anna Moore and Sadrea Brown.



Clockwise from top right: Amiya Culpepper, Seth Chatham Blakely Riley, Courtney McPherson, and Amyia Welch



From left: Eryka Rhodes, RN; Alexandria Johnson; and Shelena Benamon.



Nurses Find Their Match

Congratulations to Jenna Abel, RN (left), and Kalyn Stennis, RN (right), who were “matched” with 3-East, where they will work after graduating from the Nurse Residency Program.



NURSING AT ANDERSON



Educational Achievements Celebrated

Congratulations to the following members of our Patient Care Leadership team who recently graduated with higher degrees.

From left, Julious Heidelberg, RN, BSN;

Billie Kidd, RN, MSN;

Natalie Beddingfield, RN, BSN;

Hannah Cain, RN, BSN; Sabrina Johnson, RN, BSN; and Jennifer Couch, RN, BSN.

(Not pictured - Monica Drummond, RN, BSN)



Special Sessions for Nurse Residents

Rick Johnson, BSN, RN, Associate Chief Nursing Officer, recently spoke to our current group of Nurse Residents. Johnson reviewed the role of Nursing Administration and discussed how they assist and support the nursing staff. Nurse residents receive in-depth education to prepare them for their nursing duties.



Andrea Laird, MSN, RN, CIC, Infection Control Director recently spoke to our current group of Nurse Residents. Laird reviewed infection control practices.

Nurses Complete SANE Training

Anderson now has four trained adult/adolescent Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners (SANE). Joshua Redmond, RN (Charge Nurse, Emergency Department), Jessie Smith, RN (Charge Nurse, Emergency Department), Brantley Massey, RN (Emergency Department), and Angela Douglas, RN (Director of Patient Care Operations, Nursing Administration) attended the 40.5-hour training at the University of Mississippi Medical Center.

The training was hosted by the Mississippi Coalition Against Sexual Assault (MSCASA) Center, in partnership with The Mississippi Crime Lab, Mississippi Child Advocacy Centers, and the Mississippi State Department of Health. The intense weeklong training was taught by Mrs. Shalotta Sharp, RN, SANE-A, SANE-P, Special Projects Coordinator of MSCASA (center of picture) and covered: Overview of Forensic Nursing, Female/Male Anatomy-Physiology, SANE Exam Techniques, Blunt and Sharp Trauma, Strangulation, Drug Facilitated Sexual



Assault, Forensic Photography, Crisis Intervention/Trauma Informed Care, Psychological Response to Sexual Assault, Neurobiology of Sexual Assault, Cultural Diversity/Special Populations, Human Trafficking,

Advocacy Role, Department of Human Services Role, Law Enforcement Role, Forensic Interview/Evidence Collection Techniques, Victims Compensation, STI/EC Medications, Documentation, Discharge Planning, Perpetrator Behavior, and the Mississippi Crime Lab's role. Paula Broome, JD, Training Director of Mississippi Child Advocacy Centers, provided training on the Mississippi law standards and testimony procedures. All nurses were allowed to participate in a mock sexual assault trial, serving as a SANE expert for the prosecutor or defense. The trained SANE nurses are now working towards accumulating 300 hours of sexual assault clinical practice, a criterion that must be met to sit for the certification exam.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Back-to-School Trauma Training

Trauma team members Brandye Vance, RN, and Janet Terrell, RN, made a presentation to Newton County Academy employees during their back-to-school meetings. The team discussed correct tourniquet use and how to stop blood loss in case of an emergency. All staff that participated in the training received a tourniquet kit.



Women of Hope Rally

Renee Jackson, Ginny Ruffin and Peggy Eakes shared information about the work of Anderson Regional Cancer Center with more than 200 attendees at the Women of Hope Rally sponsored by the Area 6 Baptist Women in Newton.



MS Power Health & Safety Fair

Anderson team members (from left) Maggie Mott, Christy Napp and Nicole Gaines participated in the Mississippi Power Company Health & Safety Fair in August.



Two RNs Wound Care Certified

Shout out to Adonia Ross, RN, WCC (Emergency Department) and Megan Walker, RN, WCC (Wound Healing and Hyperbaric Center), who recently completed the Skin and Wound Management Course, sponsored by the Hospital Quality Improvement Contract (HQIC) through the Mississippi Hospital Association. The Wound Care Education Institute led the course with the exam provided through the National Alliance of Wound Care and Ostomy. The registration fee for each participant was grant-funded by the HQIC (approximately \$2,500 per person). Ross and Walker are now wound care certified for the next five years.



Anderson team member Erin Barnes, Director of Social Services, is a busy lady! In her off time, Erin spearheaded the 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb event in downtown Meridian. The event is held each year on the anniversary of the 2001 terrorist attacks and serves as a reminder of those who died. First responders and community members gathered at the downtown parking garage and climbed up and down the parking garage stairs 19 times to reach the equivalent of 110 floors. The distance matches the height of the World Trade Towers and is a tribute to the 343 firefighters and paramedics who died responding to the attacks. In addition to its role as a memorial, the 5th annual stair climb also serves as a fundraiser for the First Responders Benevolence Fund. The event raised \$6,000, which supports firefighters, police officers or others in times of need.



Erin Barnes, event coordinator, with fellow Anderson employee John Anderson.



Barnes and Anderson team member LeAnn Bohl.

Breastfeeding Competencies Training

CHAMPS Breastfeeding Competencies training was held at Anderson in August. This course is designed to cover the skills and attitudes competencies outlined by Baby-Friendly USA™ in the new 6th Edition Guidelines and Evaluation Criteria. Taught by CHAMPS trainer Cathy Carothers and Angela Parker, the interactive training featured lecture, demonstrations, videos and hands-on activities and discussions. Pictured with CHAMPS staff are Anderson team members Jana Cook and Michelle Johnson.



Celebrating Breastfeeding Awareness Month

The Lactation Center at Anderson Regional Birth Center, a designated Baby-Friendly facility, provides breastfeeding education and support to mothers before the birth of her baby and throughout her breastfeeding journey. During Breastfeeding Awareness Month, we provided our new moms with special breastfeeding goody bags and celebrated our lactation specialists, Katrina Trosper, Michelle Johnson and Jana Cook, for their dedication to our patients.



Pumping Room for Employes

As a Baby-Friendly USA™ facility, Anderson is committed to supporting new mothers, whether they are patients or our own staff. Our lactation consultants have created an employee pumping room to provide a special place for our team members who wish to breastfeed. The employee pumping room is located inside the Maternal/Newborn Education Center on the first floor of Anderson- North.



A Heartfelt Thank You

NICU Staff,

Thank you so much for your excellent care, attention, and compassion during our recent unexpected NICU stay. I was naturally a stressful time for us as parents, but we are so thankful for your communication, answering questions, supporting us as we visited in the NICU, and overall easing our burden at a time when we weren't really sure what to expect. It was hard to have our little guy away from us, but we knew he was receiving excellent care and love in the NICU.



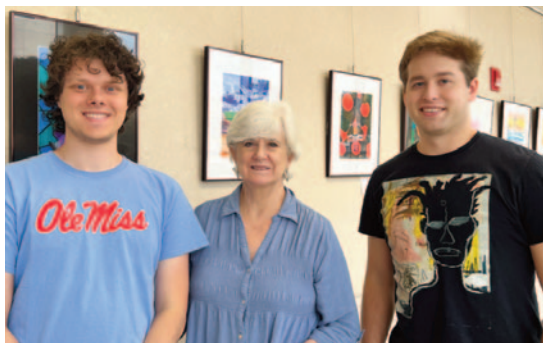
We are enjoying newborn life at home, getting into routines, and trying to sleep! Our little guy is thriving and has gained more than two pounds since discharge!

He was such an unexpected blessing in our lives, and I thank God every day for all the support and excellent

medical care that got us where we are today.

Thank you for all that you do day in and day out!

—A Grateful Family



Student Art Exhibited at Anderson

Thank you to Kate Cherry, Executive Director of the Meridian Museum of Art, for coordinating the beautiful art exhibition located near our Emergency Department waiting area. The art is provided by area high school students and brightens the spirits of our staff, patients and visitors.

Pictured, from left: Caleb Phillips, Director of Communication and Programs for MMA; Kate Cherry; and Quaid Foshee, Phil Hardin Foundation summer intern.



Therapy Dog Maggie Spreads Joy

Anderson is pleased to have Rebecca Pearson return as our therapy dog handler. Rebecca and Maggie, a mini-goldendoodle and certified therapy dog, spread joy at Anderson as they stop at nurses' stations, greet visitors, and visit patients' rooms.



Volunteers Raise More than \$2,600

The Anderson Volunteer Auxiliary sponsored a jewelry sale and raised more than \$2,600 for volunteer projects that benefit Anderson. From left: Mary Simpson, Carla McKensie and Barbara Ivy.

Upcoming Events

Masquerade Jewelry Sale October 12– 13, \$5 Jewelry Sale December 7 – 8 in the North Lobby. Dillard's special shopping days December 8 - 9. For each purchase checked out at the designated register at Dillard's, our fundraising event receives 10% of the total.

Anderson Cup Road Race Set for Oct. 28

The Anderson Cup Road Race is BACK! This race dates back to the opening of Anderson Health & Fitness Center and holds special memories for our members, employees and community. This year marks the 37th Annual Anderson Cup Road Race and it will be held Saturday, October 28 at 8 a.m. The event has something for everyone with a 5K Run, 2 Mile Walk and a Kids Fun Run. Awards will be given in multiple categories, including a Halloween costume contest!

To register go to <https://time2run.raceentry.com/anderson-cup/race-information>.

As much as we want everyone to participate as a



contestant, we are also in need of Anderson volunteers for the event. Volunteers will stand at various points on the race route to direct the participants, manage the water table and assist with onsite registration. Any Anderson employee who volunteers for the event that is currently a member of the Fitness Center will receive a \$15 credit to be used toward merchandise, drinks etc. Any non-member who volunteers will receive a free one-month trial membership. To volunteer call Morgan Craven at 601.685.9378 or send an email to him at mcraven@andersonregional.org.

D O N A T I O N S

Mennonite Blanket Donation

Thank you to the ladies of Southern Star Mennonite Church located in Geiger, AL, who delivered hand-sewn blankets and baby items for our patients. From left: Anderson Volunteer Jean Willis, Rita Koehn, LeAnne Nichols and Anderson Volunteer Pete Willis.



Clarke County Group Raises \$28,000+ for CPBF

Thank you to the Clarke County Standing Together Against Cancer Committee for raising \$28,152.74 for the Cancer Patient Benevolence Fund. Pictured, from left: Ginny Ruffin, Laura Carmichael, Regina Davis, Sandie Blackwell, Dr. Caleb Dulaney, Verlynn Robinson, Dr. John Voss, Troy Dew, Dr. Matt Cassell, Mona Odom, Collyns Bonner and Dr. John Halbrook.



PSD Baptist Church Donates Books

Thank you to Poplar Springs Drive Baptist Church girls Sunday School class for donating books for our pediatric patients! They collected books all summer and were able to deliver hundreds of books for kids of all ages. We appreciate your kindness and know the books will help to cheer up children who are hospitalized at Anderson. Front row, from left: Kennedy Eubanks, Alyssa Espey, Claire Eubanks and Leland McDonald (pediatric patient). Back row, from left: Laura Carmichael, Director of Development; Renee Butler; Olivia Butler; Dr. Robert Eubanks, Pediatric Hospitalist; and Amanda Litchfield, RN, Nurse Manager.



Volunteers Donate Diabetes Testing Kits

Thank you to our Volunteer Auxiliary for donating 20 Prodigy Meter kits to our diabetes management team. These kits will be used to assist our non and under-insured patient population. From left: Terri Patterson, RN, CDCES; Jenny Hertel; Jean Willis; Wil Ortlepp; Pete Willis; and Denise Roberts, RD, CDCES. Not pictured is Katie Crawford, Outpatient Regulatory and Operations Advisor for Anderson Pharmacy, who was instrumental in obtaining the kits.



NATIONAL EVENTS



Surgical Technologists Week

Anderson recently celebrated Surgical Technologists Week. This hard-working team works to make sure the operating room runs efficiently.

They are responsible for properly setting up the room, arranging necessary equipment and assisting physicians during surgery.

World Patient Safety Day

World Patient Safety Day, recognized annually on September 17 by the World Health Organization (WHO), represents a global call for solidarity and concerted action by all countries and international partners to improve patient safety. Anderson Regional Health System and our accrediting organization, The Joint Commission, believe we all play a role in helping achieve a shared vision that all people experience the safest, highest quality, best-value health care across all settings. To highlight World Safety Day, Anderson team members wore orange to highlight patient and family engagement for safer care. From left: Connie Lee, Rea Brown, Billie Kidd, Cassandra Gibbs, Kim Riley and David Howell.



Nursing Professional Development Week

Happy Nursing Professional Development Week to our Education and Training department! This team works hard to ensure our staff are educated and supported, which is vital for high-quality patient and organizational outcomes. From left: Jennifer Couch, BSN, RN; Rea Brown, BSN, RN; Cassandra Gibbs, DNP, RN, OCN; Billie Kidd, MSN, RN; and Kim Riley.

SERVICE EXCELLENCE

Congratulations to the following departments that had the highest overall patient satisfaction rating in the second quarter!



Anderson - Enterprise Family Medical Center



Swing Bed Unit



Labor & Delivery



Anderson Regional Cancer Center



UPCOMING
BLOOD
DRIVES

October 24
November 17
December 20

2023 Readers' Choice Awards



ANDERSON

Regional Health System

Best Hospital

Cardiologist

- 1stDr. Jennifer Rodriguez
2ndDr. Shea Hailey
3rdDr. Thomas Plavac

Doctor

- 1stDr. Robert Justice

Fitness Center

- 2ndAnderson
Health & Fitness Center

Gift Shop

- 1stAnderson Pharmacy
& Gift Shop

Hearing Aid Center

- 1stStacy Blalock, AuD

Internal Medicine

- 1stInternal Medicine Clinic
3rdDr. Valerie Evans

Massage Therapist

- 2ndLaporshia Ruffin

Nurse

- 1stBen Leake, RN

OB/GYN

- 2ndDr. Ronnye Purvis
3rdDr. Daniel McKiever

Oral Surgeon

- 1stDr. Asif Lala
2ndDr. Joel Drummond
3rdDr. Robert Justus

Pediatrician

- 1stDr. Deanna Price

Pharmacy

- 1stAnderson Pharmacy
& Gift Shop

Physical/Occupational Therapist

- 1stBonnie Holloman, OT/CHT

Physician Asst./Nurse Pract.

- 1stMary Ann Ward,
CFNP, BC-ADM
2ndAmy Goodin, PA

Podiatrist

- 1stDr. Leigh White
2ndDr. Scott Hanegan

Plastic Surgeon

- 1stDr. Lee Thornton
2ndDr. Mark Elliott

Primary Care

- 1stDr. Doug Phillips
3rdDr. Shawn Anderson

Rehabilitation Center

- 1stAnderson Cardio-
Pulmonary
Rehabilitation Center
2ndTom C. Maynor
Rehabilitation Center

Restaurant Buffet/Salad Bar

- 3rdAnderson Café