



PULASKI COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY News

October 2026

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When you think professional, ethical, quality healthcare,
think physicians of Pulaski County Medical Society.

2026 Annual Meeting and Dinner Invitation

Register for the 2026 PCMS Membership Meeting and Dinner at Chenal Country Club on November 5, 2026. No registrations, or cancellations, will be accepted after Thursday, October 29, 2026.

You and a Guest are
Cordially Invited to the
PULASKI COUNTY
MEDICAL SOCIETY
&
PULASKI COUNTY
MEDICAL EXCHANGE
2026 ANNUAL MEETING & DINNER
Thursday, November 5, 2026
Chenal Country Club

 RECEPTION 5:45 pm - 6:15 pm	 MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS 6:00 pm - 6:45 pm	 DINNER & PROGRAM 7:00 pm
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GUEST SPEAKER:
CARL VOGELPOHL



PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- 2026 PRESIDENT'S AWARD
For Lifetime of Outstanding Contributions to Medicine
- 2026 YOUNG PHYSICIAN AWARD PRESENTATION
- 2026 OUTSTANDING STUDENT AWARD PRESENTATION

Members & guest of members \$80	Nonmembers & guest of Nonmembers \$90
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Register Here



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2026 PRESIDENT'S AWARD RECIPIENT
DR. PAUL WENDEL

2026 YOUNG PHYSICIAN AWARD RECIPIENT
DR. DERRICK HENRY

RECIPIENTS




Daylight Saving Time Reminder

Don't forget to set your clocks back!

Daylight Saving Time ends Sunday, November 1, 2026, at 2:00 a.m.
Set your clocks back one hour before going to bed Saturday night.

Enjoy that extra hour of sleep!

The Cost of Cancelling (or Bumping) a Patient Appointment

Elizabeth Woodcock, MBA, FACMPE, CPC

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There's no doubt that missed appointments have an adverse effect on your practice, but there is a related challenge that may be exacting a greater toll – bumps. "Bumping" a patient occurs when a practice cancels an appointment. The reason can be valid, such as when a patient is scheduled for emergency surgery this afternoon, causing the entire schedule of patients to be contacted for rescheduling. A bump may also be a result of a not-as-admirable cause, such as when a provider takes the afternoon off to play tennis or may have failed to alert anyone in advance about a planned vacation.

One could spend hours debating the validity of the circumstances that generated the bump. Don't exert your efforts in that regard. From the patient's perspective, the reason does not matter. The result is that they didn't get the care they expected. Therefore, it's important to identify, catalog, and manage bumps, regardless of why they occur.

First, make sure you have a reporting system that allows you to capture the reason for a missed appointment. It's not uncommon for a practice to have a single category, and provider-generated cancellations are mixed in with no-shows, patient cancellations, and so forth. Remember, in the event of a lawsuit you may need to be able to prove who was responsible for a missed or cancelled appointment: the patient or the practice. Consider including enough detail that allows for the creation of an action plan, without dragging down your team with a multitude of options from which to choose.

After you distinguish the categories, train your employees to use them properly and spot check for compliance. It's not unusual for a provider who makes it a habit of bumping patients to hide the behavior, particularly once you alert everyone that you're monitoring it.

Recognize the cost of bumping patients. Of course, it doesn't take a rocket scientist to realize that you're missing out on the revenue associated with the patient's missed encounter. However, you may not appreciate the fact that all the day's expenses remain (i.e., rent, employees, insurance, etc.) in the event of a bump. Often overlooked, however, is the cost of managing the cancellation of the patient's appointment. Your team must spend time reaching the patient (which often takes multiple attempts), as well as executing the mechanics of rescheduling the patient. Importantly, efforts must be expended on the patient to provide needed care. For example, the patient may need a prescription refill, referral, etc. These tasks are often performed by employees who are supporting the practice, not just the provider who created the bump. Perhaps the most devastating fact, however, is that the bumped patient may not return. Run a report on your bumped patients, but my research shows that 50% of new patients whose appointments are cancelled won't reschedule – or don't show up if they do. If these were surgical candidates, the loss can be in the thousands – for each and every bumped patient.

If there is a problem with the cancellation of patient appointments, it may be costing the practice financially, as well as the opportunity cost. Patient dissatisfaction and a loss of trust may be the result.

Once you get acquainted with the data, consider the opportunities. You may have none (because there are no bumps), or you may realize that it's a much bigger problem than you realized. If you determine there is an opportunity for improvement, create messaging to distribute internally. Often, bad behavior, if applicable, is halted, when perpetrators realize they're being watched. Consider strategies to mitigate the problem – in the event of an emergency, shift the work to another provider, and/or add an on-call-for-clinic rotation to your call schedule (with corresponding compensation if called to duty). Establish requirements for leave (e.g., minimum 60-day notice), and specific protocols to accommodate bumped patients (e.g., patient must be rescheduled with you or a colleague who agrees to see the patient[s] within five business days of the original appointment). Consider charging the provider for each bumped patient in the event of an irrational bump (i.e., one that could have been avoided), as it's not fair for the entire practice to bear the financial burden of one provider's problematic behavior.

Hopefully, bumps won't ever be a problem for your practice – but if they are, consider better methods to identify, catalog – and manage them. Your patients (and your bottom line) will appreciate your efforts.



ContactSVMIC@svmic.com

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CARTI to Celebrate 50th Annual Festival of Trees



Festival of Trees, the CARTI Auxiliary's signature fundraiser and Central Arkansas' most beloved holiday event, will return this November for the 50th year. Proceeds from the three-event weekend will help fund support services for cancer patients and their families, ensuring no one goes without access to care. Tickets go on sale tomorrow, September 29 at CARTI.com/festivaloftrees.

"Our impact over the past five decades has been possible because of people who believe in CARTI and the patients we serve," said Adam Head, president and CEO of CARTI. "Through Festival of Trees and many other meaningful efforts, our community has helped us remove barriers, reach patients and give more Arkansans the opportunity for earlier diagnoses and better outcomes."

Held in the Wally Allen Ballroom at the Statehouse Convention Center, Festival of Trees includes the Sugar



Plum Ball, a father-daughter dance on Thursday, November 12; Festival of Fashion, a New York City Fashion Week-style runway show featuring Central Arkansas' chicest boutiques on Friday, November 13; and Tux 'n Trees, a black-tie gala with fine dining, live entertainment and dancing on Saturday, November 14. It also features a silent auction, including designer-decorated trees, with mobile bidding open through Saturday night. To date, the event has raised more than \$12 million to support Arkansas cancer patients and their families.

"Since its inception, Festival of Trees has taken many forms, but its purpose has remained the same: offering hope and healing to patients and families when they need it most," said Jennifer Selig, CFRE, executive director of the CARTI Foundation. "50 years in, there is no better way to begin the holiday season than by helping ease the journey for



Baptist Health Names Stewart as President of Hospitals in Fort Smith, Van Buren



*President Brandi Stewart,
MBA, BSN, RN*

Baptist Health is proud to announce the promotion of Brandi Stewart, MBA, BSN, RN, to president of the River Valley Region, effective immediately. Stewart has successfully served as interim president since late April, providing steady leadership and a strong commitment to the community.

Stewart joined Baptist Health in 2024 as the chief nursing officer for Baptist Health hospitals in Fort Smith and Van Buren, as well as the system's River Valley clinics. Her appointment reinforces Baptist Health's ongoing commitment to the River Valley and ensures that patients and staff continue

to have dedicated leadership focused on quality, faith-based care.

"I am honored to step into this role permanently and continue working alongside our team to serve the River Valley," said Stewart. "I am passionate about working closely with all members of a patient's care team to improve safety, communication and the overall experience for both patients and their families."

With over 27 years of nursing and health care leadership experience, Stewart previously served as vice president and chief nursing officer of INTEGRIS Health Canadian Valley Hospital in Yukon, Oklahoma, where she led initiatives to improve patient care and clinical outcomes. Stewart earned a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Bacone College in Muskogee, Oklahoma, and a Master of Business Administration in Healthcare Administration

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Baptist Health Names Stewart as President of Hospitals in Fort Smith, Van Buren

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from American Sentinel University in Aurora, Colorado. An Oklahoma native, Stewart and her husband, Rodney, have three adult children and four grandchildren. Outside of work, she enjoys hiking, camping, traveling and watching her grandchildren play sports.

Joining Stewart in a leadership role, Cindy Pratt has been named director of hospital and practice operations. Pratt has already been performing these duties, establishing a strong, collaborative partnership with Stewart to support daily hospital and clinic operations across the River Valley.

UAMS, Bradley County Medical Center to Sign Management Advising and Co-Branding Agreement

The University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS) and Bradley County Medical Center (BCMC) in Warren are planning to sign a management consulting and co-branding agreement. The agreement was approved today by the BCMC Board of Directors.

Under the agreement, BCMC will retain its assets, operations, and oversight of the hospital. No changes to patient services, hospital staff, or daily operations will result from the agreement. BCMC retains full operational authority. Under the agreement, UAMS will provide advisory management services across key operational areas and assist the hospital in identifying opportunities to improve daily operations.

UAMS, the state's only academic health system, and BCMC have worked together for many years. BCMC is a participating hospital in UAMS's Stroke Program, which provides telehealth consults with UAMS neurologists so that hospitals around the state can offer lifesaving ischemic stroke treatment.

"At UAMS, we believe every Arkansan should have access to outstanding healthcare in their own community," said UAMS Chancellor C. Lowry Barnes, M.D. "Through this management services agreement with Bradley County Medical Center, we are strengthening our efforts to improve health outcomes in South Arkansas by supporting the hospital with advisory services and expert recommendations."

"This partnership with UAMS represents an important step forward in our efforts to improve healthcare access across South Arkansas," said Leslie Huitt, CEO and CFO of BCMC. "Through this agreement, UAMS will provide management advising and bring the strength of the UAMS brand to help us meet the evolving needs of our patients and create new opportunities to enhance care for the communities we serve."

This year, UAMS announced co-management agreements with Helena Hospital and Mena Regional Health System as well as a strategic partnership with Jefferson Regional Medical Center in Pine Bluff. On Oct. 1, UAMS Health will open a 53-bed hospital in Saline County.

'Sky BHRI': Unique Airplane Installation Elevates Patient Rehabilitation at Baptist Health



Baptist Health Rehabilitation Institute-Little Rock (BHRI) recently installed a unique cross-section of an airplane fuselage, branded as "Sky BHRI," complete with authentic passenger seats and overhead storage compartments.

This project was constructed by Aero Salvage Design of Northeast Arkansas, a specialized company that salvages airplane parts to create realistic aircraft sets for movies and television. It will be integrated into the institute's therapy programs to provide a realistic, true-to-life flight

'Sky BHRI': Unique Airplane Installation Elevates Patient Rehabilitation at Baptist Health

experience for patients undergoing rehabilitation.

The installation was constructed into a wooden frame. While the interior features authentic materials salvaged from decommissioned planes, the exterior is wrapped in a vinyl to mimic a real cross-section, incorporating the colors of Baptist Health.

The addition of the fuselage section is a groundbreaking step in BHRI's commitment to providing innovative and patient-centered care.

For many patients, the return to daily activities includes the ability to travel. This simulation environment will allow physical and occupational therapists to work with patients on the complex tasks associated with air travel, such as:

- Navigating the narrow aisles and managing luggage.
- Practicing the mobility required to get into and out of passenger seats.
- Reaching into overhead bins to retrieve items.
- Managing balance and coordination in a realistic, confined space.

"This incredible addition provides an unparalleled opportunity to help our patients achieve their travel goals with confidence," said Kourney Matlock, president of Baptist Health Rehabilitation Institute-Little Rock. "The fear of not being able to manage the physical demands of flying can be a significant barrier for those recovering from an injury or illness. By safely mimicking this experience here at the Institute, we are directly addressing a major real-world challenge, allowing our patients to return to their lives and travel plans sooner."

The simulated environment, funded in part by gifts to Baptist Health Rehabilitation Institute through Baptist Health Foundation, will be a vital tool for patients recovering from strokes, spinal cord injuries, orthopedic procedures, and other conditions that impact mobility and balance.



CARTI Expands Access to Early Detection with Mammos and Muffins

Community Events Designed to Empower Women to Take Charge of Their Breast Health

The Breast Center at CARTI is encouraging women to take charge of their breast health with its annual [Mammos and Muffins](#). Held throughout October for Breast Cancer Awareness Month, the events are designed to make it easier and more convenient for women to receive their annual screenings.

"Mammograms are our most effective tool for finding breast cancer sooner, when treatment is most effective," said Jessica McElreath, one of The Breast Center at CARTI's fellowship-trained breast imaging specialists. "Yet, many women face obstacles to undergoing breast cancer screenings, including scheduling constraints. By offering expanded availability close to where patients live and work, we hope to reduce those barriers and empower women to prioritize their breast health."

The Breast Center at CARTI will host Mammos and Muffins events at the following comprehensive cancer centers Monday-Friday from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. and Saturdays from 8-11:30 a.m. Along with their annual screenings, women can also enter giveaways and receive free breast health resources. Those interested in scheduling an appointment may call 501-537-MAMO.

Pine Bluff | Monday, September 28-Saturday, October 3 at 5001 Bobo Rd.

El Dorado | Monday, October 5-Saturday, October 10 at 1601 N West Ave.

Russellville | Monday, October 12-Saturday, October 17 at 209S Portland Ave.

Little Rock | Monday, October 12-Saturday, October 17 at 8901 CARTI Way

North Little Rock | Monday, October 19- Saturday, October 24 at 3400 Springhill Dr.

The Breast Center at CARTI recommends that women of average risk begin receiving annual mammograms at age 40. Individuals at higher risk, such as those with family histories of breast cancer, should speak to their providers about considering earlier or additional screenings. According to the American Cancer Society (ACS), the five-year survival rate for breast cancer is now more than 99% if the disease is found in localized stages.

For 12th Year, UAMS Nationally Recognized for Providing High-Quality Stroke Care

The American Heart Association (AHA) and the American Stroke Association have recognized the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS) for the 12th consecutive year for its commitment to excellence in stroke care.

The Get With The Guidelines-Stroke Gold Plus quality achievement award signifies that UAMS remains committed to ensuring that people experiencing a stroke receive timely, appropriate treatment, ultimately helping to save lives and reduce disability. The award is based on nationally recognized, research-based guidelines.

Stroke is the No. 4 cause of death and a leading cause of disability in the United States, according to the AHA's 2026 Heart Disease and Stroke Statistics Report. A stroke occurs when a blood vessel supplying the brain is blocked by a clot or ruptures, preventing blood and oxygen from reaching brain tissue. When this happens, brain cells begin to die. Early detection and rapid treatment are critical to improving survival, minimizing disability and supporting faster recovery.

The Get With The Guidelines program is designed to improve stroke care through consistent adherence to AHA guidelines. Each year, hospitals participating in the program qualify for the award by demonstrating how their organization has followed clinical treatment guidelines and helped people manage their recovery and ongoing health at home.

Adherence to the guidelines can minimize long-term effects of stroke and help prevent death.

UAMS also received the AHA's Target: Stroke Honor Roll Elite Plus, Advanced Therapy award, as well as the Target: Type 2 Diabetes Honor Roll award.

Those awards, respectively, are for meeting specific criteria that reduce the time between a patient's arrival at

the hospital and clot-busting treatment, and for ensuring that patients with Type 2 diabetes, who might be at a higher risk for complications, receive the most up-to-date, evidence-based care when hospitalized due to stroke.

"We are proud to recognize UAMS for its commitment to caring for people experiencing stroke," said Steven Messe, M.D., volunteer chair for the AHA Stroke System of Care Advisory Group. "Participation in Get With The Guidelines is associated with improved patient outcomes, including greater likelihood of being discharged home, fewer readmissions and lower mortality rates — a meaningful benefit for healthcare systems, families and communities."

The awards cover program data from 2024 and 2025.

Paige Womack, BSN, RN, director of the UAMS Comprehensive Stroke Center program, said she is proud that UAMS is part of a program that helps save lives and stroke-caused disabilities.

"This repeated recognition over the last 12 years shows that we are committed to best practices and life-saving stroke care," she said.

In 2025, UAMS was recertified as a Comprehensive Stroke Center by DNV Healthcare USA Inc. In 2018, UAMS became the first hospital in Arkansas to earn Comprehensive Stroke Center designation, highlighting its commitment to offering Arkansans the best in stroke care.

UAMS provides 24/7 access to stroke experts, ensuring rapid treatment with clot-busting medication. UAMS also offers interventional neuroradiology and advanced neurosurgical procedures and delivers post-procedure care guided by best practices to enhance patient outcomes.

Blue & You Foundation Grant Funds UAMS and Our House Shelter Pilot Program

The University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS) received a \$224,340 grant from the Blue & You Foundation for a Healthier Arkansas to fund the Medical Respite for the Unhoused pilot program.

The two-year pilot medical respite program operates through a collaboration between UAMS and Our House Shelter, located at 302 E. Roosevelt Road, in Little Rock.

"The Blue & You Foundation invests in solutions that address the real-life barriers Arkansans face in achieving better health," said Rebecca Pittillo, president of the Blue & You Foundation for a Healthier Arkansas. "This pilot reflects the kind of practical, community-centered

approach that can help people recover safely, regain stability and move toward healthier futures."

The pilot program will be the first shelter-embedded medical respite model, integrating clinical care into a community-based recovery setting, in central Arkansas.

"Patients experiencing homelessness often remain hospitalized after they are medically stable because they lack a safe place to recover, which can be costly for the hospital, reduces inpatient capacity, and can lead to poorer patient outcomes," said UAMS Chancellor C. Lowry Barnes, M.D. "Through the Blue & You Foundation grant, this pilot program between UAMS and Our House will

Blue & You Foundation Grants Funds UAMS and Our House Shelter Pilot Program

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provide medically supported recovery beds for unhoused patients discharged from the hospital, reducing length of stay, preventing readmissions, improving recovery, and connecting patients to employment, benefits, and stable housing as a pathway to long-term health and economic stability."

Funds will be used exclusively for staffing, direct services, and essential clinical supplies needed to deliver safe recovery care outside the hospital. This will include:

UAMS clinical staff including a part-time UAMS social worker and care transition specialist Medical supplies and durable clinical equipment

UAMS' program coordination, evaluation, and outcomes measurement Our House case management, daily support staff, and employment and housing navigation services Support Services to ensure access to medical and housing appointments

"Housing instability is a foundational driver of poor health, and without targeted interventions, clinical care alone cannot produce sustainable improvement," said Stephanie Gardner, Pharm.D., Ed.D., UAMS provost and chief strategy officer. "Because of funding from the Blue & You Foundation, the medical respite pilot program will create a scalable model that integrates healthcare and social services, reduces unnecessary hospital utilization, and improves recovery for people experiencing homelessness."

The Blue & You Foundation was established in 2001 through an initial gift from Arkansas Blue Cross and Blue Shield. Since its inception, the Foundation's financial base has grown through wise and prudent investment strategies. This has enabled the foundation to support its mission by making grants funded by the interest earned on those investments.

Since 1987, Our House has provided a pathway out of homelessness for families and individuals in central Arkansas, empowering homeless and near-homeless families and individuals to succeed in the workforce, in school, and in life through hard work, wise decision-making, and active participation in the community. Over the past four decades, the contributions of thousands of dedicated people from all parts of the community have built Our House into a program that is having a lasting impact on hundreds of lives each year.

"Healthcare challenges play a huge role in miring people in homelessness, and improving access to quality healthcare is a top priority for Our House," said Ben Goodwin, Our House's executive director. "We are very excited to partner with UAMS to develop a new and innovative model for aligning healthcare, housing, and other supports to empower people in our community to get from a place of extreme vulnerability to a place of stability."

UAMS Invests Chancellor C. Lowry Barnes, M.D., in Harry P. Ward Chancellor's Distinguished Chair



*Chancellor
C. Lowry Barnes, M.D.,*

The University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS) invested Chancellor C. Lowry Barnes, M.D., in the Harry P. Ward Chancellor's Distinguished Chair during a Sept. 29 ceremony.

"In this prestigious chair, I hope to lead by the example of the many chairholders who preceded me, including that of Chancellor Harry P. Ward, a man who I have greatly admired and whose legacy I am determined to honor and continue," said Barnes.

"UAMS has given me more than I could have ever asked for, including providing me with the skills to become an excellent physician and orthopaedic surgeon, allowing me to create an orthopaedic hospital right here on campus,

and this year, to become chancellor of this institution," he continued. "I am beyond grateful, I remain humble, and I promise the people of Arkansas that we are prepared to provide the care that they deserve."

Barnes was named chancellor of UAMS on Feb. 5 after serving as interim chancellor for seven months. A fellowship-trained, board-certified orthopaedic surgeon specializing in hip and knee joint reconstruction and replacement, he joined UAMS in 2014 as professor and chair of the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery and Rehabilitation. He is also the founding director of The Orthopaedic and Spine Hospital at UAMS, a hospital located on UAMS's Little Rock campus that brings world-class orthopaedic, spine, and pain experts together under one roof.

As chancellor, Barnes has spearheaded efforts to grow UAMS's revenue to create a sustainable and self-sufficient healthcare system, increase research funding, accelerate

UAMS Invest Chancellor C. Lowry Barnes, M.D., in Harry P. Ward Chancellor's Distinguished Chair*continued from page 7*

philanthropic funding, increase employee wages, and work with executive leadership to create a culture of exceptional hospitality.

Guest speakers at the ceremony included Arkansas Gov. Sarah Huckabee Sanders; Alice Walton, founder of the Alice Walton Foundation; Charles F. Robinson, chancellor of the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville; and Kevin Crass, assistant secretary of the University of Arkansas Board of Trustees. Jay B. Silveria, president of the University of Arkansas System, presided over the investiture ceremony, while he and James R. "Randy" Lawson, chair of the University of Arkansas Board of Trustees, presented the medallion to Barnes.

"Dr. Lowry Barnes and I share something special: Pine Bluff was the first place we both called home," said Sanders. "From there, he went on to train at UAMS and become one of the nation's leading orthopaedic surgeons, proving that Arkansans don't have to leave home to achieve at the highest level. As we work to improve health care across our state, partnerships between UAMS, state government, and communities across Arkansas will be critical for reaching more patients and building a healthier state. I'm proud to celebrate Lowry as he takes on the Harry P. Ward Chancellor's Distinguished Chair and carries forward a legacy of excellence at UAMS."

An endowed chair is among the highest academichonors a university can bestow on a faculty member. A distinguished chair is established with gifts of at least \$1.5 million, which are invested with the interest proceeds used to support the educational, research, and clinical activities of the chair holder. Those named to a chair are among the most highly regarded scientists, physicians, and professors in their fields.

The Harry P. Ward Chancellor's Distinguished Chair was endowed in 2005 to honor the countless accomplishments of Harry P. Ward, M.D., who served as chancellor of UAMS from 1979-2000. The Willard and Pat Walker Charitable Foundation provided the lead gift of \$1 million for the chancellor's chair, which drew support from other donors to meet the \$2.5 million endowment. During the 21 years Ward was at its helm, UAMS evolved into an internationally recognized academic health center — it saw transforming growth in student enrollment, a tenfold increase in external research dollars, and the completion of over \$200 million in major construction projects. I. Dodd Wilson, M.D., who served as chancellor from 2000-2009, was the inaugural recipient of the chair.

Raised in Pine Bluff, Barnes received a Bachelor of Science in natural sciences and zoology from the University of

Arkansas at Fayetteville in 1981. He earned his medical degree with honors from the UAMS College of Medicine in 1986, before completing his internship and residency in orthopaedic surgery at UAMS as well. He completed an Adult Reconstructive Surgery and Arthritis Surgery Fellowship at Brigham & Women's Hospital/Harvard Medical School in Boston. He was then selected to participate in the prestigious John N. Insall Traveling Fellowship as well as an AO/ASIF (Association for the Study of Internal Fixation) Adult Orthopaedic Fellowship at Inselspital in Bern, Switzerland.

"I believe an essential quality that makes Lowry well suited for the role of chancellor of UAMS is his connection to rural Arkansas, roots that we share and both believe are important towards the prosperity of this state and wider region," said Walton, founder of Alice L. Walton School of Medicine and Heartland Whole Health Institute.

"The transformation of Arkansas' healthcare system must include robust collaborations throughout the state, and Lowry has always been a bridge builder, bringing people together for the common good," she added. "I'm confident that Chancellor Barnes will accelerate statewide efforts toward a healthier future for every Arkansan."

Widely recognized as one of the foremost joint replacement experts in the world, Barnes has made substantial contributions to research focused on the hip and knee, publishing more than 350 peer-reviewed articles. He lectures nationally and internationally on total joint replacement surgery and holds seven patents for orthopaedic surgery devices and implants. He has held numerous national leadership roles, including president of the American Association of Hip and Knee Surgeons, and remains active in leading orthopaedic societies worldwide.

Before returning to UAMS, Barnes practiced at Arkansas Specialty Orthopaedics in Little Rock, where he served more than a decade as president and managing partner. In 2017, he was invested in the Carl L. Nelson, M.D. Distinguished Chair in Orthopaedic Surgery.

"I have known Lowry for more than 55 years, and he is a committed leader who has a deep love for Arkansas," said Crass. "As a Board of Trustees member, I am glad he is chancellor at UAMS; as an Arkansan, I am glad that he is so committed to improving healthcare in our state. He is uniquely qualified to lead UAMS now and take on the challenges facing healthcare. In addition to his professional accomplishments, I admire and respect him as a dedicated family man and true friend to many."