



PULASKI COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY News

August 2020

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Pulaski County Medical Society

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

Helping the Healers of Central Arkansas

The pandemic of 2020 continues to be a hard lesson for us all. Harsh realities bring out the true nature of people, both good and bad. Recently news outlets reported large numbers of unemployment insurance fraud, Paycheck Protection Program loan fraud and some harsh reactions to having to wear masks in public. There is so much negative in the world we forget about our healthcare patriots who serve the public selflessly.

Prior to the pandemic being a physician was already a stressful position. During the pandemic the stress level has increased dramatically. Before COVID- 19 a Mayo Clinic survey showed 44% of physicians with signs of burnout. The New England Journal of Medicine said that 96% of medical professionals, physicians and management alike, agree that burnout is an issue. The healers of central Arkansas need our support now and going forward. This is the purpose for the society creating the Healing the Healer Foundation.

The foundation was created to provide doctors with confidential, cost free assistance during stressful periods of their practice. Since 2018 the foundation has helped 4 doctors by providing professional counseling in private settings, for a total of 18 visits. I know this number may not sound like much but we are very proud of this fact. The reality is that it is not just these doctors who were helped, but also the hundreds of patients that they serve. It helps our doctors be the best they can be for those who need them the most. The community is healthier because of this program.

I am asking all of our member physicians to join the foundations efforts to provide this service to all their colleagues and themselves. Help us spread the word to physicians, and support this effort today by sending your gift to the Healing the Healer Foundation. Your tax deductible donation will provide services to doctors and possibly save a life.

To donate send to: **Healing the Healer Foundation**
500 S. University Avenue, Suite 311
Little Rock, AR 72205



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CARTI Announces Plan to Build CARTI Cancer Center in Pine Bluff

CARTI announced July 7, 2020 it plans to build its fifth comprehensive CARTI Cancer Center in Pine Bluff, bringing its statewide presence to 17 treatment locations in 15 communities. The cancer treatment facility’s planned services will include medical and radiation oncology, an infusion suite, imaging, mammography services and an on-site lab. Construction is set to begin in December 2020 and the project is anticipated to be completed by January 2022.

“We chose Pine Bluff as the location for our newest facility based on patient needs and our desire to bring the most advanced cancer care into the communities

where patients live,” said Adam Head, president and CEO of the statewide network of cancer care providers. “We look forward to bringing the communities in southeast Arkansas the most advanced technologies and expertise with the new CARTI Cancer Center in Pine Bluff.”

The Pine Bluff treatment facility will be near Interstate 530 on a seven-acre tract adjacent to Trotter Ford. This will be the fourth cancer center the organization has launched within the past two years and the largest facility outside of its main cancer center in Little Rock. The facility will employ approximately 30 full-time employees.

CHI St. Vincent Welcomes Dr. Anthony Bucolo and Dr. Sibghat Tul Llah



Dr. Anthony Bucolo

CHI St. Vincent Oncology Clinic welcomes Dr. Anthony Bucolo to the growing team of leading oncologists and hematologists. “We’re honored to welcome Dr. Bucolo to the CHI St. Vincent Oncology Clinic,” said Dr. Peter Emanuel, CHI St. Vincent Director of Oncology Services. “His addition represents another step

in our progress toward developing a comprehensive cancer center at CHI St. Vincent to provide outstanding, compassionate care for Arkansans.”



Dr. Tul Llah

CHI St. Vincent Heart Institute welcomes invasive cardiologist Dr. Sibghat Tul Llah. Dr. Tul Llah will be seeing patients at the CHI St. Vincent Heart Clinic Arkansas Cardiology and Medicine Clinic located at 5315 West 12th Street in Little Rock. “We’re excited to welcome Dr. Tul Llah to the team at our Cardiology and Medicine Clinic to help provide the

highest-quality care to our cardiovascular patients here in Central Arkansas,” said Marcia Atkinson, president of the CHI St. Vincent Heart Institute.

Baptist Health-UAMS Family Medicine Residency Program Receives Full 10-Year Accreditation

The Baptist Health-UAMS Family Medicine Residency program has received a full 10-year accreditation from the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME).

The program was started in 2019 to provide more positions to train medical school graduates and address the physician shortage in Arkansas, especially in rural areas. Studies show that physicians are more likely to practice close to where they did their residencies: 75% stay within 75 miles of where they trained.

“When the opportunity arose for Baptist Health to help train more of the physicians needed in the state, we enthusiastically endorsed the program,” said Troy Wells, president and CEO of Baptist Health. “We are grateful for the partnership with UAMS and appreciate the tremendous help they are providing to the continued success of these programs.”

“It is gratifying to see that this spirit of teamwork between UAMS and Baptist is enabling us to successfully fulfill our mission to train future family medicine physicians and increasing the pool of doctors who may

choose to remain in Arkansas to practice,” said Cam Patterson, M.D., MBA.

The family medicine residency launched in summer 2019 and trains up to 12 residents per year over the course of the three-year program. Twelve new residents have matched into the program for 2020 and will begin in July. When full of trainees at the three-year point, it will be one of the larger family medicine residency programs in the nation.

In a further sign of dedication to the project, Baptist Health opened a new building in January 2020 in North Little Rock built specifically for the medical education program.

Arkansas lacks an adequate number of family medicine physicians, ranking 46 out of the 50 states in physicians per capita. Studies project these trends will worsen in the coming decades.

Accreditation ensures that graduate medical programs across the United States meet common quality standards. The process includes written documentation and site visits for in-person evaluation by a review team made up of volunteers from the specialty.

CARTI Adds Five New Providers to its Medical Team

CARTI announced July 7th the addition of five new physicians, bringing its team of cancer experts to a total of 38 physicians.

Marian Miller, M.D., Breast Oncologic Surgeon

Dr. Miller served as a breast surgeon and director of the Women’s Breast Center of Houston in Houston, Texas, and as a surgeon at Kaiser Permanente in West Los Angeles, California. She completed a fellowship in breast oncology at City of Hope National Medical Center in Duarte, California, and completed her residency in general surgery at Orlando Health in Orlando, Florida, where she was named general surgery chief resident.

Jessica McElreath, M.D., Breast Imaging Specialist

Most recently, Dr. McElreath has served as an assistant professor at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences in Little Rock, Arkansas. She was previously the director of breast imaging at the Central Arkansas Veterans Healthcare System in Little Rock, Arkansas. She completed her fellowship in breast imaging and residency in diagnostic radiology at the University of Arkansas for Medical Science in Little Rock, Arkansas.

Continued on page 6



Profiles in Excellence

Dr. James E. McDonald

What motivated you to choose medicine as a career?

My pediatrician saved my life when I was 8 years old. In those days well before ultrasound and CT, I had a tricky case of retrocecal appendicitis that escaped diagnosis for several days. He made the diagnosis just in time. From then on, I knew I wanted to be able to do something like that for people.

Why did you choose your specialty?

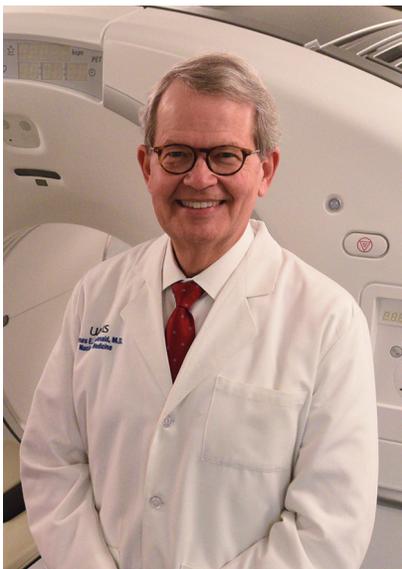
I realized that Radiology was the career for me during a rotation senior year. The ability to noninvasively "see" what's going on inside a living human being seemed like a miracle then, and still does.

Who are the people who influenced you the most in your professional life and why?

Dr. Ron Evens, our Chair at Mallinckrodt Institute of Radiology (Washington University in St. Louis), was the first great radiology mentor for me. In addition to being one of the youngest radiology chairs ever, he was a nuclear medicine subspecialist (as I subsequently became). He set an uncompromising standard for service to patients and referring physicians and had an early vision for the potential of diagnostic imaging to revolutionize medicine.

Dr. Gary Purnell was Director of Nuclear Medicine when I returned to UAMS (and Mallinckrodt) to do a year's fellowship in 2002. Gary is actually younger than me by

quite a few years, but was an outstanding teacher and physician. His excitement about nuclear medicine and molecular imaging and were infectious and his intellectual rigor set a standard I still try to match.



What advice would you give current medical students?

It is very important as one chooses a specialty to be careful to distinguish between those which are enjoyable to do and those which are enjoyable to watch. Radiology is a classic example of a specialty which is the former but not the latter, with the exception of Interventional Radiology, which can be both. Diagnostic Radiology can seem less than captivating to a first time observer. It's just not very good theater to watch someone interpret studies. But any radiologist will tell you that the synthesis of the clinical data and

application of myriad and endlessly variable imaging findings in the solution of a patient's problem can afford as much excitement and professional satisfaction as any other field of medicine.

Name one interesting thing that most people would not know about you?

With the encouragement of my wife, Donna, I have discovered that I am a pretty decent artist. Probably makes sense. Radiologists are trained to observe. Picking up a brush and setting things down on canvas just seemed like a logical next step.

Profiles in Excellence is our way of spotlighting member physicians who are making a difference and changing our world. It is a chance to recognize doctors who have made outstanding contributions to medicine and local communities. Doctors may be recommended by fellow physicians or staff members by contacting the Pulaski County Medical Society office at 501-687-0039.

CARTI Adds Five New Providers to its Medical Team

Continued from page 4

David Kuperman, M.D., Medical Oncologist

Most recently, Dr. Kuperman is a partner in Van Amburg and Busiek, LLC in Chesterfield, Missouri. Previously, he was an adjunct instructor in the division of oncology at Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri, and a staff physician at John Cochran Veterans Administration Medical Center in St. Louis, Missouri. He completed his fellowship in hematology/oncology at Barnes-Jewish Hospital/Siteman Comprehensive Cancer Center at Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri.

Michael May, Jr., M.D., Radiation Oncologist

Dr. May completed his residency in radiation oncology at the James Graham Brown Cancer Center at the University of Louisville College of Medicine in Louisville, Kentucky, where he was selected as chief resident. He earned his medical degree from the University of Tennessee Health Science Center in Memphis, Tennessee, a Masters of Science in Physiology and

Bio-Physics from Georgetown University in Washington, D.C., and a Bachelor of Arts in Neuroscience from Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tennessee.

Jaclynn Elias, M.D., Supportive and Palliative Care

Dr. Elias will launch CARTI's first-ever palliative care program, which will provide patients with an extra layer of support specifically targeted at relieving side effects of their treatment. This specialty will be delivered in tandem with other curative treatments.

Most recently, she has served as a palliative medicine consultant at Baptist Health and Practice Plus in Little Rock, Arkansas.

She completed her fellowship in hospice and palliative medicine and a residency in internal medicine at the University of Arkansas for Medical Science in Little Rock, Arkansas.

the new normal

*What are the risks associated with
telemedicine?*

*We're barely making payroll, what if we
can't make a payment?*

*I'm a retired doc that wants to help,
will I be covered?*

*Will my premium be lower
while I'm closed or not doing certain surgeries?*

*What do you do to help burned out physicians
serving on the frontline?*

Am I covered if I get infected?

How do we keep our practice safe?

Keep up with the challenges facing good medicine

Visit the **ProAssurance COVID-19 Information Center** to find frequently updated information gathered to support your medical professional liability coverage decisions.

You'll find helpful risk guidelines, policy updates, and crisis support at **ProAssurance.com/COVID-19**.



Healthcare Professional Liability Insurance

For ProAssurance policyholder information and resources >>>

ProAssurance.com/COVID-19



Member News

AY, About You, Arkansas' Lifestyle Magazine Names PCMS Members to its Inaugural List of Men of Distinction



Dr. Ali Krisht



Dr. Brian McGee



Dr. Eric Wright

AY, About You, introduced its first annual Men of Distinction list in their June 2020 magazine. The list included Pulaski County Medical Society members Dr. Ali Krisht of CHI St. Vincent Arkansas Neuroscience Institute, Dr. Brian McGee of Arkansas Diagnostic Clinic, and Dr. Eric Wright of Wright Plastic Surgery. We congratulate these deserving doctors and thank AY, About You, magazine for their recognition.

Paul K. Edwards, MD Joins Bowen Hefley Orthopedics

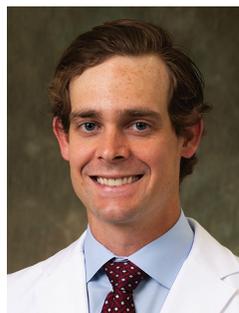


Dr. Paul K. Edwards

Paul K. Edwards, M.D. has joined the team of orthopedic surgeons at Bowen Hefley Orthopedics. Dr. Edwards specializes in reconstructive surgery of the hip and knee, including primary and revision joint replacement. Dr. Edwards was previously at the UAMS Orthopedic Clinic. He has received numerous awards, grants

and accolades and participates in research studies to further improve the design and function of total joint replacement. He has authored and co-authored several peer-reviewed manuscripts and lectured nationally and internationally on hip and knee replacement.

Patrick Selakovich, MD Joins Arkansas Gastroenterology



Dr. Patrick Selakovich

Patrick Selakovich, MD is the newest member to join the team at Arkansas Gastroenterology. Dr. Selakovich attended medical school at UAMS where he also did his internship and residency. Dr. Selakovich began seeing patients July 27, 2020.

Please check the PCMS website at pulaskicms.org for updated event information.



Pulaski County Medical Society
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Mission:
Promote medical care,
professional growth, and
public health.

Vision:
To be a catalyst for change
in how healthcare is
viewed and implemented
in Central Arkansas

Strategic Plan 2018 – 2021

1

Practice and Professional Viability

Maintain and enhance services,
professional staff and communications
to effectively implement the mission.

2

Community Voice and Outreach

Create and participate in events to
promote health; monitor and propose
government initiatives that affect public
health and safety; become the trusted
resource in the community for overseeing
the influencing of public health policy.

3

Leadership

Growing the number of active members
involved in the society's community
outreach and service, and take care of
the mental health of its members through
the foundation.

**If you would like to be involved in the
committee to help implement the
Strategic Plan please call 501-687-0039.**