

**INSIDE THIS ISSUE:**  
**EARTH DAY AT UAMS**  
**CONTINUES TO GROW,**  
**EVEN IN RAIN**

UAMS rolled out news beds for more than 300 patients in the UAMS hospital in April.

This was the first major new bed purchase since the new patient tower opened in 2009, and some of the beds being replaced were nearly 20 years old.

After many months of planning, the new beds began arriving on Monday, April 15.

“The new Stryker S3 beds have several comfort and safety features that will benefit both our patients and staff,” said Tim Hill, chief operating officer for UAMS Medical Center. “Patient feedback has been very positive, and staff are receiving fewer calls to reposition patients in their bed, so it’s a win-win.”

The bed replacement process involved a carefully choreographed route that began in the back of an 18-wheeler in the Walker Tower loading dock and

## NEW HOSPITAL BEDS BENEFIT PATIENTS AND STAFF



*Chelsey Harris (top) pauses next to a bed crossing sign as she transports a bed from the loading dock to a patient room.*



*Jalen Morris (left) and Bradon Berry, contract employees with Stryker, assemble new patient beds in the UAMS loading dock. More than 300 patients received new beds in April.*

ended with placing the old bed in the back of another 18-wheeler parked in the same loading dock.

The hospital is purchasing a total of 424 new general floor beds and 55 beds for the intensive care units, replacing almost all of the existing beds. The final shipment is expected to arrive in July.

Among the safety and comfort features for patients are softer, more comfortable gel mattresses, lights below the bed that come on when patients get out of bed and go off when they return, and a positioning system that keeps the patient’s head closer to the wall so they can more easily reach personal items on the nightstand.

The beds also have several features that help caregivers, including side rails that make it easier for patients to get in and out of bed with minimal staff support; a bedframe that keeps patients in place when their head is raised or lowered so they need less repositioning; a folding IV pole attached to the bed; a caregiver control panel at the foot of the bed; and the ability to lock the position of the bed.

Additional features such as a TV remote on the side rail, built-in fall alarms and more convenient electrical connections to the wall will be added in the next several months.

# ART FROM THE HEART EXHIBIT FEATURES CREATIVE WORKS BY UAMS EMPLOYEES, STUDENTS

UAMS employees and students showed off their creative sides during the Art from the Heart exhibit April 6 at the Arkansas Arts Center.

About 30 members of Team UAMS displayed paintings, photography, poetry, woodworking, knitting and more at the inaugural event.

Sponsored by the UAMS Office of Interprofessional Education, the event was the brainchild of Wendy Ward, Ph.D., director of Interprofessional Faculty Development.

“Those who work in a setting with the ill, injured or dying all feel the importance of their work, and the impact it has on the patients and families who come to UAMS,” she said. “This work can be stressful as well as deeply satisfying.

“Artistic expression is one way we can express the impact this work has on us internally — the stress, worry and sadness as well as the deeper meaning and purpose in our work.”

A panel of judges evaluated the exhibition pieces and selected nine favorites. Those artists were invited to give a short presentation during the event.

“Magnolia Blossom,” a painting by Jessica Lowder, a bid coordinator in the procurement office, was the judges’ top pick.

Lowder, who previously worked at the Arts Center, said she has been “obsessed with drawing and painting” since she was a small child, going so far as to often abscond with her father’s art supplies.

“Magnolia Blossom” is one of a series of flower portraits that Lowder has painted over several years.



*An Art from the Heart attendee examines Octahedral with Curve, a woodwork piece created by Shalese Fitzgerald.*

The judges other picks were:

- Kristen Alexander — “She Beards,” mixed media
- Shalese Fitzgerald — Octahedral with Curve, woodwork
- Laura Hanson — “Flowing” drawing
- Annlee Hicks — “Blooms,” dried flowers in resin
- Marissa Miller — “Blood, Muscle & Bones” painting
- Parthak Prodhan, M.D. — “Sunset at Pinnacle” photograph
- Manisha Singh, M.D. — “Dementia” poem
- Jennifer Steck — “Old Broadway” painting



*Jessica Lowder created the judges favorite piece, “Magnolia Blossom.”*

## STATE POLICE THANK UAMS FOR SAVING OFFICER’S LIFE



*Lila McWilliams with State Police Director Bill Bryant (left) thanks the trauma team for their part in saving her husband's life. Cpl. Clayton McWilliams was critically injured Jan. 3 in a vehicle accident.*

# EARTH DAY AT UAMS CONTINUES TO GROW, EVEN IN RAIN



*A Little Rock Zoo interpreter shows off a hawk at the UAMS celebration of Earth Day.*

Heavy, spring rains April 18 in central Arkansas only brought more growth to Earth Day at UAMS.

On the Little Rock campus, 18 vendors staffed tables set up to educate employees, distribute promotional items and environmental information, recycle materials and just generally celebrate nature.

Michael Thomas, manager of operations in UAMS Campus Operations, and Kevin Yancy, sustainability supervisor in the same department, organized the event, which drew three more vendors than last year.

Because of the weather, hundreds of employees and students gathered near the covered entrance at the B level of Parking 2 and a nearby interior corridor. They took home door prizes, free trees, flowers and LED light bulbs. UAMS has recognized Earth Day since 2011 with similar events and tree plantings.

The people attending even got a chance to observe up close a live hawk, snake and tarantula from the Little Rock Zoo.

In addition to the zoo, vendors and presenters at the celebration included Shred Smart, Entergy, Clear Results, Staples, Waste Management and Arkansas Recycling Coalition. UAMS presenters were Nutrition Services, Police, Safety and Environmental Services.

A shredder truck was available, so attendees could bring personal papers to be shredded along with small electronic items. People also were bringing glass for recycling because it's no longer allowed in curbside recycling bins in Little Rock, North Little Rock and surrounding areas.

"UAMS is a big campus," Yancy said. "As much as UAMS contributes to the landfills, sustainability is important to minimize that and get most of that recycled so it doesn't go there. It's especially important for any institution that's this large. That's the way to go to sustain and recycle."



OUR HEARTFELT  
**THANKS TO**  
**UAMS**  
**NURSES**



Twenty-nine nurses from UAMS were honored in this year's Great 100 Nurses Arkansas list.



## ACCOLADES

**Antino Allen, Ph.D.**, an associate professor in the College of Pharmacy's Division of Radiation Health, was invited by his alma mater, Indiana University, to deliver the first presentation in their Minority Alumni Speaker Series. His presentation was titled "Effects of Space Radiation on Cognition: Implications for Future Trips to Mars."

**Jennifer Coley, R.N.**, who works on F5 Neonatal ICU, has been selected as the **May DAISY of the Month**, an award to recognize extraordinary nurses.

**Madelyn Roper**, a clinical care assistant on A5 High Risk Antepartum/Postpartum has been named the **May BEE of the Month**, an award by the Center for Nursing Excellence that honors non-nurse staff who provide exceptional care for patients and families.

**Sharon Walton**, a clinical housekeeper, received the **Golden Mug for April** as the staff member at the Cancer Institute whose work deserves special recognition

**F8 Cardiac Progressive Care** was selected as the Outstanding Area of the Month for May.

## NEW HIPAA SOFTWARE ENSURES PATIENT PRIVACY

When it went into effect in 2003, the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA) set national standards for the protection of certain health information, called Protected Health Information, and how it may be used.

According to federal guidelines, UAMS must conduct "reasonable, regular and periodic" review of electronic records to ensure that employees, students, faculty and staff are accessing only those patient records needed to perform their job. Up until now, this has been done by the UAMS HIPAA Office reviewing activity logs, reports and other information and determining accesses that may be inappropriate or unauthorized.

In April, UAMS began using Protenus, a powerful new tool in the detection of unauthorized viewing of protected health information. Protenus has developed a patient privacy monitoring system that uses artificial intelligence and software analytics to do the work of multiple full-time employees.

"The software uses data from our electronic health records and SAP to rule out appropriate use of data and flag only activity that is suspicious," said Heather Schmiegelow, UAMS Privacy Officer and HIPAA Campus Coordinator. "It's like we were looking for a needle in a huge haystack before, and now we have a really strong magnet that can pull all the needles out for us."

Once potential inappropriate accesses to patient's records are identified, the HIPAA Office will further investigate to see if access to the patient's protected information was related to the job of the faculty member, student or employee who accessed the records.

"Nothing will change in terms of our HIPAA policies and the disciplinary process for those who violate them," said Schmiegelow. "We will continue to work with Human Resources when we identify a HIPAA violation."

In addition to using Protenus, the HIPAA Office will continue to rely on faculty, students and employees to report potential violations. On online form, which available on the UAMS HIPAA website ([www.hipaa.uams.edu](http://www.hipaa.uams.edu)) under "Report an Incident," can be used to report HIPAA incidents. Violations can also be reported by calling 501-614-2187 or 1-888-511-3969.

Even accessing your own medical record may be a violation of UAMS policy. To see your own information within the guidelines, use your UAMS MyChart account or request your files from the Health Information Management department.

## IN MEMORIAM

**GEORGE LINK ACKERMAN, M.D.**, 89, OF LITTLE ROCK, DIED APRIL 2, 2019. HE WAS THE FORMER CHAIR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF MEDICINE AND ETIRED IN 2000.

**LAURA ANN WILSON**, 59, OF LITTLE ROCK, DIED APRIL 12, 2019. A PATIENT SERVICES ASSOCIATE IN THE OR, SHE RETIRED IN AUGUST 2018.

**ERIC JOHNSON, Ph.D., M.P.H.**, 74, OF LITTLE ROCK, DIED APRIL 10. HE WAS A PROFESSOR IN THE FAY W. BOOZMAN COLLEGE OF PUBLIC HEALTH'S DEPARTMENT OF EPIDEMIOLOGY.

VISIT THE IN MEMORIAM INTRANET SITE,  
[HTTP://INSIDE.UAMS.EDU/INMEMORIAM/](http://inside.uams.edu/inmemoriam/),

FOR FULL OBITUARIES ON UAMS EMPLOYEES AND STUDENTS WHO HAVE PASSED AWAY.