



# McLeod

*magazine*

Volume 37, Issue 3, 2022

MCLEOD HEALTH:  
THE CUTTING EDGE

Dr. Ardalan Sayan  
Orthopedic Surgeon



# Views



Donna Isgett

The foundation of McLeod Health lies in local people caring for local people. Throughout its century-long history, the organization has been unwavering in its dedication to medical excellence in both care and service.

As we face both exciting and challenging seasons ahead, McLeod Health remains on the cutting edge.

Day in and day out, we push ourselves to be better for you, the patient. New developments are constantly taking place across our seven hospitals as we strive to be at the forefront of innovation that makes a meaningful difference in your health journey.

The Mission of McLeod is to improve the health of people in our region by providing quality care in a safe and comforting environment. In fact, McLeod has received national distinction for our excellent patient outcomes, patient satisfaction, exceptional patient experience and significant advancements in medical care and treatment of patients.

In addition to being mission-minded, we have a Vision that inspires and motivates us. At McLeod, our Vision is to be your choice for medical excellence while making meaningful contributions to the regions we serve. It is with purpose and passion that we continue to focus on providing the best in what you need and deserve to be healthy.

Our work family of more than 15,000 team members, including 950 physicians, consider it a privilege to serve at McLeod Health and to call the communities from the midlands to the coast home.

I thank you all for making McLeod Health the Choice for Medical Excellence. Our dedication and our excellence are Here for Life, and we are exceedingly grateful to our patients, families and visitors who entrust us with their care.

Please join us as we continue our journey of compassion and care at McLeod Health, reflected in the voices of victory and recovery throughout our winter edition of the *McLeod Magazine*.

Donna Isgett  
President and CEO, McLeod Health



## ON THE COVER:

The striking cover image of this **McLeod Magazine** features Orthopedic Surgeon Dr. Ardalan Sayan performing a robotic-assisted knee replacement at McLeod Regional Medical Center in Florence, SC. Dr. Sayan also cares for patients and operates at McLeod Health Dillon. Advancements in robotic-assisted surgeries enhance a patient's surgical experience by offering less pain, shorter hospital stays, faster recoveries and a quicker return to normal activities. Robotic-assisted surgeries are performed throughout the McLeod Health system in the following specialties: general surgery, orthopedics, urology, gynecology and thoracic surgery.

**McLeod**  
*magazine*

is published by

**McLeod Health, Florence, S.C.**

**Donna Isgett**

President and CEO, McLeod Health

**Jumana A. Swindler**

Editor, Vice President of Communications  
& Public Information

**Co-Editors**

Tracy H. Stanton and Jessica Wall

**Contributing Writers:**

Jennifer Beverly, Jaime Hayes, Kelly Hughes, Jennifer Hulan, Leslie Mikell, Arielle Williams Miles, Weston Nunn, Carrie Anna Strange, Shaw Thompson and Tammy White

**Photographers:**

Jason Crist, Doug Fraser, Lexi Lowe, Amber Murley

**Design and Printing:**

Sheriar Press, Myrtle Beach, S.C.

©2022 by McLeod Health.

All rights reserved. For permission to reprint, contact McLeod Publications.  
(843) 777-2592 • [www.mcleodhealth.org](http://www.mcleodhealth.org)



# Inside

**4 GRATEFUL TO BE ALIVE**

**6 GETTING BACK TO NORMAL**

**8 GOING WITH THE FLOW**

**10 STRENGTH ON THE SIDELINES**

**14 REACHING FOR THE GOAL**

**16 PROVIDING WHOLE-FAMILY CARE**

**18 KEEPING UP WITH THE JONESES**

**20 MCLEOD MY CHART**

**26 AN UNEXPECTED JOURNEY**

**27 SHOULDER 2 SHOULDER**

**30 GROWING TO MEET THE NEEDS OF GROWING FAMILIES**

**32 DOUBLING DOWN ON DIABETES**

**34 UNRAVELING THE MYSTERY**

**36 MEET THE NEW PHYSICIANS PROVIDING NEUROLOGY CARE**

**38 2022 MCLEOD CANCER REPORT**

**42 MCLEOD NEWS**



GRATEFUL TO BE ALIVE | PAGE 4



REACHING FOR THE GOAL | PAGE 14



KEEPING UP WITH THE JONESES | PAGE 18





Paris Pate spent more than 260 days in McLeod Health Cheraw and McLeod Regional Medical Center battling complications from COVID-19. In May 2022, the hospital staff and members of the Cheraw and Bennettsville communities came together to celebrate with Paris and her family as she walked out of McLeod Health Cheraw with the assistance of a walker and staff alongside her.

Paris's extensive hospitalization at McLeod Health Cheraw endeared her to the staff who now consider her part of their family. Registered Respiratory Therapist Sandi Byrd said, "Those of us in Respiratory were with Paris from day one. We saw her in her lows and her highs. I could not imagine staying in the hospital for months like she did, and I know she missed being at home with her family and friends. I'm very thankful that I was a part of her care knowing how far she came since she first arrived at McLeod Health Cheraw in August 2021."

After receiving more advanced intensive care at McLeod Regional Medical Center, Paris was transported back to McLeod Health Cheraw in December 2021. At the McLeod hospital closer to her home in Bennettsville, Paris impacted the lives of many staff members, especially the Respiratory Therapy team.

Danielle Pentecost, RRT, explained, "Paris touched the lives of every healthcare provider who cared for her. She allowed us to be part of a true miracle, giving us all inspiration when we needed it the most."

"She is the definition of humble and kind with a smile that lights up the entire room. I was fortunate to be part of her recovery process at McLeod Health Cheraw."

Another member of the Respiratory Therapy team, Tracy Hatcher, RCP, shared, "Paris is a patient who will certainly always be remembered. She taught me more than I could have ever taught her, and she is proof that miracles do happen every day. After being hospitalized for almost one year, Paris had many overwhelming days of despair."

"One day, she asked if there was any way she could go outside, and I had the privilege of being the one to share this moment with her, alongside her physical therapist and nurse. Once we opened the door and pushed her out in the wheelchair, Paris immediately threw her hands up in the air, closed her eyes, and said 'thank you, Jesus.'"

"I get chills every time I think about that moment," recalled Tracy. "This made it all worth it for me. All the hard work, blood, sweat and tears shed through COVID had been lifted. I was honored to be a part of sharing this moment with her as we all cried happy tears. Her willpower and determination will always be something I strive for every day. Through it all, Paris had a smile on her sweet face and remained so strong in her

faith. She never gave up."

Paris's recovery highlighted the Medical Surgical, Respiratory Therapy and Rehabilitation Services' teamwork at McLeod Health Cheraw.

Pricilla McRae, Director of Respiratory Therapy, added, "As I listened to the staff during shift change sharing experiences and tears regarding Paris' progress, it reminded me of a quote by Steve Maraboli: 'We are designed with a dreaming brain and a hopeful spirit; it is our nature to envision the life of our dreams. And while dreaming comes easy to us, we must never forget that it takes strength, dedication and courageous action to bring that dream to life.'"

"Paris had a dream that she shared with the Respiratory staff, her desire to have her tracheostomy removed, walk and return home. With her faith in God, strength and dedication, and the courageous actions of the medical staff at McLeod Health Cheraw, her dream was brought to life."

As a long-stay COVID patient, Paris was more than ready to return home, and her goal was to leave the hospital on her own two feet. The staff knew Paris' goal and they were determined to help her reach it. "There was one day in particular I will never forget as it truly touched my heart," explained Danielle.

"I assisted Physical Therapy and

another Respiratory Therapist while Paris walked down the hall. She made it more than halfway to the front door, which was the longest she had walked."

"When Paris returned to her room, she sat on the bed with tears rolling down her face. She said, 'Thank you, all of you, for saving my life.' We were all crying with her, and she added with a smile, 'I love all of you, but I'm walking out that front door.' And she did," added Danielle.

On that warm May afternoon as Paris prepared to leave the hospital after her long journey, several speakers offered remarks, including Paris' Pastor Eddie Davis with Community of Grace Church, South Carolina House Representative Pat Henegan and Hospital Chaplain James Smith. Paris was also driven home in a limousine with a police escort.

Paris addressed those gathered that day as well. "People say treat others the way you want to be treated. These loving nurses and staff have been good to me... all of them. I'm so grateful to be alive. I'm grateful... grateful... grateful. Just tell anybody, everybody how good God has been to me. And God did it."

Today, Paris is enjoying her life at home with her family. She recently shared that after returning to church in a wheelchair and on oxygen, then a walker and oxygen, on August 14, she walked into church with no oxygen. "God has been with me every step of the way."



Paris Pate was determined to walk out of McLeod Health Cheraw after spending more than 260 days in the hospital. Supported by the staff, she waved to the crowd gathered to celebrate her miraculous outcome.

# Grateful

by Tracy H. Stanton

## TO BE ALIVE





Suzanne McLaurin of Dillon is pleased with the skilled and compassionate care she received from Orthopedic Surgeon Dr. Ardalan Sayan.

# GETTING BACK TO *normal*

by Jaime Vance Hayes

Retired teacher Suzanne McLaurin of Dillon has always been accustomed to an active lifestyle - from enjoying sporting events and playing a round of golf to spending time with her five grandchildren. Over the last couple of years, knee pain began to put a damper on Suzanne's lifestyle.

The pain was constant. It would keep Suzanne up at night, and then during the day, she had to ice her knee and rest frequently.

"I tried braces and over-the-counter medications, but neither offered any relief," said Suzanne. "Eventually, it became difficult for me to climb stairs and get in and out of my car."

After dealing with the increasing pain for months, she made an appointment with **Dr. Ardalan Sayan** of McLeod Orthopaedics Dillon. "I had heard great things about him and hoped he could help me."

Her first impression of Dr. Sayan lived up to her expectations. His bedside manner, which Suzanne describes as impeccable, immediately instilled trust and confidence in his care.

"Suzanne presented with deep pain in the front and inside of her knee that diminished her quality of life," said Dr. Sayan. "X-rays confirmed my suspicion that she was suffering from rheumatoid arthritis."

Rheumatoid arthritis (RA) is a chronic autoimmune and inflammatory disorder that occurs when the immune system mistakenly attacks its own body tissues, most often in the joints. Pain, swelling and stiffness in the joints are the most common symptoms.

"As rheumatoid arthritis progresses in a patient, swelling can begin to cause damage

to cartilage, leading to extensive bone damage," explained Dr. Sayan.

To lessen the severity of her pain, Suzanne received several intermittent steroid injections in her knee. This approach worked to relieve her pain temporarily but was not a permanent solution. Despite these efforts, her pain gradually worsened.

"My goal was to alleviate Suzanne's knee pain and restore her quality of life," said Dr. Sayan. "Since other treatments were unsuccessful, surgery was the best long-term solution."

Suzanne underwent a total left knee arthroplasty, or a total knee replacement, in May 2022.

During the procedure, damaged parts of the bone were removed and replaced with implants.

"Joint replacement surgery has revolutionized the way people who have painful, non-functional joints go about their lives in terms of alleviating pain while restoring mobility and function of the joint," said Dr. Sayan.

Total knee replacement is the most commonly performed joint replacement procedure. A highly successful procedure, the majority of total knee replacements function 10 years or more past surgery.

Soon after Suzanne's surgery, a physical therapist arrived to help her start walking the halls. "I could not believe how quickly I was back on my feet, just hours after a knee replacement, and that I was able to go home the same day.

"My entire experience was wonderful, from the physician practice to the operating room to the hospital floor. McLeod Health Dillon has everything we need here in our community, so there is no need to travel elsewhere,"

Suzanne continued. Suzanne completed three weeks of in-home and outpatient physical therapy with McLeod Rehabilitation in Dillon following her surgery.

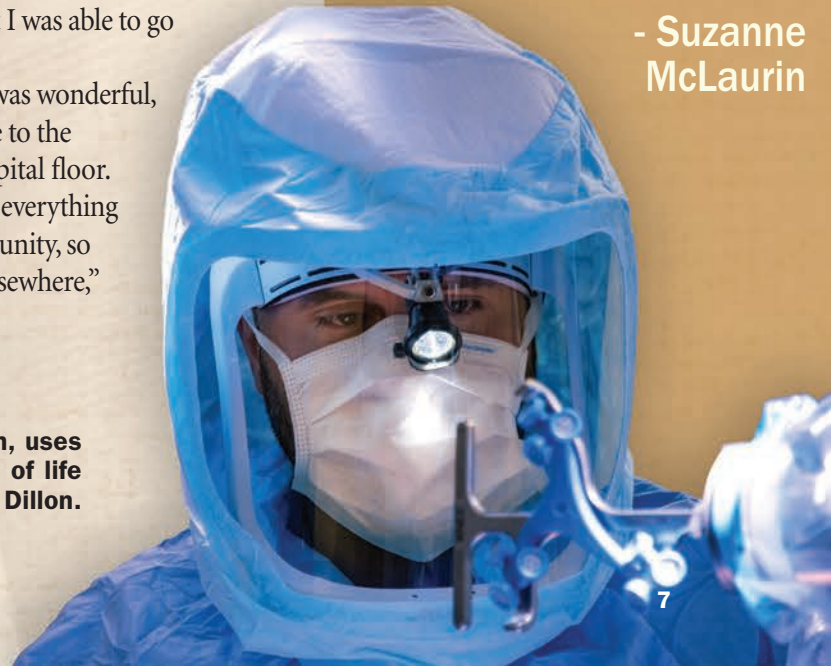
With each day of therapy, Suzanne noticed improved strength and mobility in her knee. Now, she walks a couple of miles several times a week, enjoys rounds of golf, and most importantly, plays in the yard with her grandchildren pain-free.

"We are very fortunate to have such a skilled and compassionate surgeon like Dr. Sayan here in our community," Suzanne added. "I was amazed at how intently he listened to me and guided me through every step of my healing process. I am incredibly grateful for his care."

**"I could not believe how quickly I was back on my feet."**

- Suzanne McLaurin

**Dr. Ardalan Sayan, Orthopedic Surgeon, uses cutting-edge technology to restore quality of life for patients like Suzanne McLaurin of Dillon.**





Because of the expertise and quick response of Dr. Chris Cunningham, Rhetta is able to enjoy time with her husband and beloved dogs at their preserve.

# GOING WITH THE FLOW

by Jennifer Hulon

**“I am impressed that McLeod Health Seacoast offers the FlowTrieve<sup>®</sup>, as it is one of the latest technologies. I am also grateful Dr. Cunningham shared his skill to save my life.”**  
— Rhetta Stanley

Recuperating from a stroke in April 2022, Rhetta Stanley faced challenges daily. The after-effects of the stroke left her partially paralyzed on the left side of her body.

Before the stroke, Rhetta's usual routine was working on her family preserve and playing with her hunting dogs and puppies. She remained diligent in maintaining as much normalcy as possible.

Determined to move forward from her stroke, Rhetta made sure her physical therapy continued. Her husband Rodney has remained by her side, helping Rhetta progress and feel like herself again. After many therapy sessions and Rodney's support, Rhetta's health was improving.

That was until a Sunday morning in July when Rhetta felt weak and had difficulty breathing.

“While we were traveling to church, I continued to feel worse and told Rodney I could not catch my breath,” recalls Rhetta.

Suddenly, Rhetta stopped breathing. Rodney frantically pulled over the car.

“When she quit breathing, I began praying out loud, asking God what I needed to do to save her,” said Rodney.

Moments later, Rhetta began to breathe. They were shallow breaths, but she was back. Rodney rushed her to the McLeod Health Loris Emergency Department. Rhetta shifted in and out of consciousness. She had a dangerously low heart rate and blood pressure reading, which added more concern to her attending ER Physician, **Dr. Chad Buffkin**.

A CT scan revealed a massive saddle pulmonary embolism (PE). This is a blood clot branching off into both lungs. Dr. Buffkin consulted with McLeod Vascular Surgeon **Dr. Christopher Cunningham** about Rhetta's case.

Rhetta was stabilized and transported to McLeod Health Seacoast in preparation for emergency surgery.

“When I saw Rhetta's scan, I knew her prognosis was not good,” said Dr. Cunningham. “Through my many years in the vascular field, this was one of the largest embolisms I had seen.”

Prior to surgery, Dr. Cunningham discussed the probability of surgical outcomes with Rhetta and Rodney. He told them removal of the blood clot was necessary to save Rhetta's life.

“Dr. Cunningham made sure I understood how critical this procedure was for me and the statistics involved,” said Rhetta.

Dr. Cunningham determined Rhetta was a candidate for a pulmonary artery clot retrieval method with a new innovative device called FlowTrieve<sup>®</sup>.

“The likelihood of a patient surviving a pulmonary embolism is high if treated quickly. However, in Rhetta's case, her PE was very large and life-threatening,” said Dr. Cunningham. “There were several surgical options to retrieve her clot, but the FlowTrieve<sup>®</sup> was the best choice in her situation.”

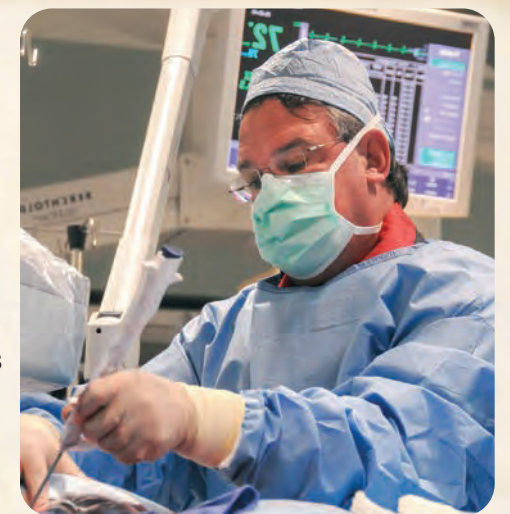
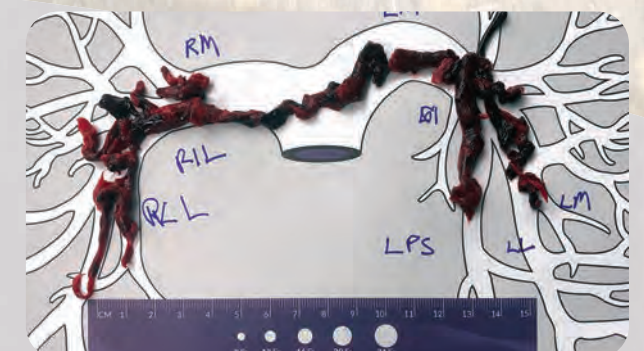
FlowTrieve<sup>®</sup> is the first catheter-based device purposely created for the treatment of removing large clots from big vessels, such as lung arteries. Under conscious sedation, the procedure typically takes one hour. The device removes the clot using mesh disks and a large catheter to rapidly eliminate the clot and restore blood flow.

Along with McLeod Health Seacoast, McLeod Regional Medical Center also offers a team of physicians who perform this procedure.

Dr. Cunningham pulled an incredible volume of clotted blood from Rhetta's chest. The size of the clot was so large the operating room staff were amazed she was alive.

After surgery, Rhetta was observed in the Intensive Care Unit for several days. The procedure was successful, and Rhetta felt well enough to go home.

**This image, taken by the McLeod Health Seacoast Vascular team, shows the massive blood clot that extended into both of Rhetta's lungs and was successfully removed using the FlowTrieve<sup>®</sup> device.**



**McLeod Vascular Surgeon Dr. Chris Cunningham performs procedures in the Hybrid OR at McLeod Health Seacoast, including the FlowTrieve<sup>®</sup>.**

“I am so incredibly thankful for Dr. Cunningham's transparency regarding my diagnosis,” recalls Rhetta. “We were frightened but felt confident in his ability to remove my clot. I am impressed that McLeod Health Seacoast offers the FlowTrieve<sup>®</sup>, as it is one of the latest technologies. I am also grateful Dr. Cunningham shared his skill to save my life.”

Rhetta and Rodney own Cubby and Pines Preserve, which hosts individuals and groups for sports shooting and game hunting. They also breed German Short Hair and Pointer dogs, which bring so much joy to their lives and preserve.

Since her surgery and therapy, Rhetta's mobility has improved. She can walk with a cane around the property, which has been life-changing.

Because of Rhetta's increased energy and mobility, she can now hold her puppies and enjoy them surrounding her.



# STRENGTH

## ON THE SIDELINES

by Leslie A. Mikell

It is a Friday night in South Carolina, and stadium lights are shining bright on the high school football teams competing on the field. The marching band is playing in the stands, and the cheerleaders have the crowd on their feet. Suddenly,

everything comes to a stop and a silence falls over the crowd. An athlete is down on the field, not moving.

Someone from the sideline rushes to the middle of the field and is by the athlete's side. They carefully assess the athlete, checking their limbs and neck.

Then, they help the athlete to their feet, and the crowd applauds while the athlete is walked off the field.

Afterward, on the sideline, the athlete undergoes a more thorough medical evaluation. Who is the person taking care of the student athlete?

From Lake City to Dillon, Florence to Conway, and Manning to Cheraw, McLeod Sports Medicine Certified Athletic Trainers provide care for student athletes in schools and on the sidelines.

Certified Athletic Trainers (ATCs) are allied health professionals who are experts in injury prevention, assessment, treatment and rehabilitation, particularly in the orthopedic and musculoskeletal disciplines. ATCs are also involved in

healthcare administration, nutrition, biomechanics, education, counseling, physiology, psychology and conditioning to enhance athletic performance.

"Currently, McLeod Sports Medicine has more than 35 Certified Athletic Trainers working in more than 31 schools across northeastern South Carolina," states Adam Ploeg, Director of McLeod Sports Medicine and Rehabilitation.

"We provide Athletic Training and Sports Medicine services to both local public and private high schools, middle schools as well as two collegiate programs.

"Our highly qualified Sports Medicine team has Athletic Trainers who hail from all over the United States," Adam

mentions. "Many have master's degrees, and several others also hold additional certification and training as Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs)."

Having a Certified Athletic Trainer on site ensures a safe environment for athletic participation. The ATC works to prevent athletic injuries and cares for the students if injuries occur. With their presence in the schools, at practices and games, the ATCs build relationships with coaches, student athletes and their parents by creating a culture of trust and communication. Students can come to their athletic trainer with not just injuries, but for help with problems off the field as well.



From the courts to the sidelines, and the pitches to the diamonds, the team of dynamic and highly trained McLeod Sports Medicine Certified Athletic Trainers proudly serve student athletes at more than 31 local schools.



“What makes the McLeod Sports Medicine program unique is the direct connection with the McLeod Health system of comprehensive orthopedic and rehabilitative care,” says Dr. Jeremy McCallum, Sports Medicine Specialist and Orthopedic Surgeon at McLeod Orthopaedics Seacoast. “If an athlete is injured at practice or a game, their athletic trainer can immediately assess the injury and refer the athlete to one of our McLeod Orthopaedics physician offices for further evaluation with a Sports Medicine trained physician.”

McLeod Sports Medicine physicians can quickly and accurately diagnose and treat injuries, and McLeod Orthopedic Surgeons can perform surgery if necessary. Patients have the option to complete their rehabilitation and physical therapy within the McLeod Health system as well. Once they are recovered and rehabilitated, the McLeod Sports Medicine ATC guides them as they return to play. From the start of the injury to rehabilitation and recovery, McLeod Sports Medicine is involved with patients every step of the way.

“The impact and value of our team of Athletic Trainers is simply immeasurable,” states Adam. “Their work in more than 31 schools across nine counties directly supports the mission of McLeod Health to improve the health and well-being of people living in our local communities.”

# ATHLETIC TRAINER SPOTLIGHT

Alex Holbrooks is the Certified Athletic Trainer at West Florence High School. He also is a Certified Strength and Conditioning Specialist and has been with McLeod Sports Medicine since 2016. “The most rewarding part of being an Athletic Trainer is making a difference in my students’ lives. My goal is to help them return to their sport quickly and safely,” says Alex.

Sierra Shemanskis joined the McLeod Sports Medicine team in 2019. She is the Certified Athletic Trainer at Lake City High School and has a Master of Science in Athletic Training.

“At McLeod, we work together as a team and can always reach out to anyone for advice or help. Each year we train on competencies, like how to deal with heat stroke, proper helmet and equipment removal, and more, so we are prepared for almost anything that comes our way,” Sierra comments.

High School Athletic Directors also recognize the impact of having Certified Athletic Trainers as part of their programs.

“Our athletic trainer plays a vital role in the success of our athletic program. Alex provides us with rehab services, as well as preventative care. He does it all with a smile and has a great relationship with all our student athletes,” comments Greg Johnson, Athletic Director at West Florence

High School.

Matt Apicella, Athletic Director at Lake City High School, adds, “Having a Certified Athletic Trainer on campus and at every event is a definite comfort when it comes to the physical and mental well-being of our student athletes. Sierra is more than the ATC to these kids. She is a friend, mentor, coach and a vital part of our athletic department.”



Alex Holbrooks, ATC, CSCS, and Sierra Shemanskis, MS, ATC, cared for players together on the sidelines of the West Florence High School vs. Lake City High School football game this fall.



# FULL SPECTRUM INJURY CARE

Schools that partner with McLeod Sports Medicine receive amenities beyond the field, as well.

An additional benefit to schools contracted with McLeod Sports Medicine for Athletic Training services is the free sports physical events held every year. McLeod Orthopedic Physicians, McLeod Sports Medicine Physicians and Athletic Trainers, along with McLeod Family Medicine Residency

Physicians provide this service each year to local student athletes.

On Saturdays during the fall sports season, McLeod Sports Medicine hosts free injury clinics for student athletes, where players can be assessed by a Sports Medicine physician. These clinics provide extra accessibility to injury care so families have the opportunity for their child to get the care they need quickly.

## McLeodOrthoNOW

McLeod Orthopaedics in Florence offers a walk-in orthopedic service, McLeod OrthoNOW, which is open to the public. If an injury happens during the week, on the weekend, or outside of the fall sports season, patients can be seen the same day, without an appointment, for new minor injuries like bumps, bruises, sprains, strains, contusions or fractures.

From the sidelines to surgery, the team of surgical and non-surgical McLeod Orthopaedics Sports Medicine Physicians partner with McLeod Certified Athletic Trainers in the treatment and rehabilitation of injured student athletes.



Pictured from left to right are Dr. Brandon McDonald, Dr. Jeremy McCallum, Dr. Art Jordan, Dr. Pat Denton, Dr. Zac DiPaolo, Dr. Thomas DiStefano and Dr. Chris Stanley.



# REACHING FOR THE GOAL

by Jennifer Beverly



**McLeod Sports Medicine Specialist and Orthopedic Surgeon Dr. Jeremy McCallum played a game of one-on-one basketball with patient Josiah Crawford.**

Driven, entrepreneurial and athletic describe Conway, South Carolina native Josiah Crawford. In 2020 during the midst of COVID-19, the Conway Christian School junior opened a car detailing business called Palmetto Boy to make some extra spending money and contribute to his college savings fund. “I wanted a job that allowed me to

make my own schedule while attending high school and playing sports,” said Josiah. “I branched out and created an opportunity where I still had time to do what I love - being with my family and friends and playing sports.” Over the next year, Josiah expanded Palmetto Boy by working on weekends and throughout the summer months.

During school, Josiah focused on schoolwork and athletics, playing both football and basketball. In the fall of 2021, Josiah kicked off his senior year on the football field underneath the Friday night lights. During one of the first games of the season, an opponent tackled Josiah and he fell to the ground.

“My body landed on my foot and my left ankle cracked,” said Josiah. “The ambulance transported me to a nearby hospital, where X-rays confirmed that I had broken my ankle.” Immediately after hearing Josiah’s diagnosis, Nicole Tinetti, a McLeod Health Certified Athletic Trainer (ATC) at Conway Christian School, scheduled an appointment for him to see **Dr. Jeremy McCallum**, Sports Medicine Specialist and Orthopedic Surgeon at McLeod Orthopaedics Seacoast. Five years ago, Conway Christian added football to its athletic program. Along with the growth, the school decided to partner with McLeod Sports Medicine to provide a Certified Athletic Trainer as a healthcare resource for the student athletes. “The school had a loose agreement with a local medical provider, but not a solid sports medicine program like we now have with McLeod,” said Victor Crawford, Josiah’s father and Chairman of the Board of Directors at Conway Christian School. “Our relationship with McLeod has been a game changer.” McLeod Sports Medicine hired Nicole Tinetti, ATC, to assist with injury diagnosis and prevention as well as provide emergency care, therapeutic interventions and rehabilitation. During Josiah’s appointment, Dr. McCallum examined his ankle and confirmed that he needed surgery, which was scheduled for the next day.

“Josiah had a fracture to his left distal fibula, one of the bones that supports the ankle joint,” said Dr. McCallum. “This type of injury is common among athletes and usually takes about 12 weeks to heal after surgery.” Despite Josiah’s injury happening on the football field, his true passion is on the court playing basketball. Following in his mother’s footsteps, Josiah began playing basketball as a young child at six years old. The thought of not being able to play basketball his senior year devastated Josiah. “Dr. McCallum never told Josiah that he would not be able to play basketball,” said Victor. “As a parent, I am thankful for the encouragement he provided to my son.” Determined to quickly recover, Josiah completed two months of physical therapy at McLeod Rehabilitation in Carolina Forest. As Josiah reached his rehabilitation goals, Dr. McCallum allowed him to begin working with Nicole on specialized training techniques in preparation for basketball. “I pushed myself hard during recovery, trying to figure out the difference between

athletic training pain and injury-related pain,” said Josiah. “Luckily, working with Nicole gave me the guidance and support I needed to reach my goal and get back onto the basketball court.” With a few games left in the season, Josiah and the Conway Christian Eagles basketball team finished strong in 2022. “Josiah received phenomenal care from McLeod,” said Victor. “Nicole acted as a liaison between us, the physicians and rehabilitation to ensure a seamless continuum of care for Josiah.” Even with the struggles from his ankle injury, Josiah managed to serve as senior body president, graduated Salutatorian, and continued working his auto detailing business. Josiah is currently attending Bob Jones University in Greenville, South Carolina and plans to become an orthodontist.

**Dr. Jeremy McCallum and McLeod Certified Athletic Trainer Nicole Tinetti provided Josiah Crawford with seamless care while he recovered from ankle surgery.**







# PROVIDING *Whole-Family* CARE

by Weston Nunn

In tight-knit families, one member's ordeal is everyone's burden. This was the experience of the late JoAnn Denney Fisher and her family.

Diagnosed with terminal cancer in the spring of 2020, JoAnn spent 16 months in the care of McLeod Hospice before passing away in August 2021. In many ways during that time, McLeod Hospice also draped her husband Raymond, her daughters Amy Fisher Urquhart and Carrie Fisher Sherard, and their children with the mantle of compassionate care.

Hospice care is a specialty within medicine. Rather than attempting to cure patients of their terminal diagnoses, hospice focuses on helping them manage their symptoms and enjoy their remaining days to the fullest.

Amy, Carrie and Raymond praise McLeod Hospice staff for their care of JoAnn's body, dignity and spirit. "Not only were mom's physical needs met," Amy remembers, "they walked with her side by side to help her psychologically navigate the process of dying. The staff were more than caregivers; they were mom's social

network in a time when COVID-19 created isolation and strained relationships."

But the lasting impact on the Fisher family would be the emotional care that they too received from McLeod Hospice as they journeyed with JoAnn through her life's final chapter.

"Her nurse Olivia Timmons was terrific," Amy reflected. "She counseled all of us through the different stages of mom's treatment and helped us know what to expect."

Hospice staff became a rock for the family and provided tailored emotional support and grief counseling. This was extended even to JoAnn's grandchildren, whose young ages required delicate guidance as they processed the difficult and mixed emotions surrounding death.

For Carrie, who lives in Greenville, South Carolina, having such responsive and trusted providers only a phone call away lessened the physical distance and gave her peace of mind. "Knowing I could get a daily accurate update, for better or worse, was a comfort to me. Having that kind of access helped me remain prepared and enabled.

"Leah Howell, mom's social worker, was there with us when mom passed away," Carrie continued. "She was a comforting presence during mom's final moments, retelling family stories, laughing and crying with us as if she were a family member. Although it is unusual for a stranger to be present in such an intimate time, she was no

stranger to us. I believe mom felt it was okay to finally let go, knowing that we were all there."

Their experience with McLeod Hospice prompted JoAnn's family to sponsor a Hospice Tree Endowment through the McLeod Health Foundation. This type of gift not only funds Hospice services for future patients, but beautifully adorns the campus of McLeod Regional Medical Center with festively lit trees each December.

Amy and Carrie feel the Hospice Tree Endowment is the perfect way to honor their mother because it combines her love of Florence and serving others. JoAnn loved the Hospice tree lights so much that she used to take a different way home from work every day just so she could drive down Cheves Street and enjoy them.

"Mom was a physical therapist who loved caring for people in their homes, just like McLeod Hospice cared for her," Amy recalls.

"She always wanted to help people and was such a magnanimous person. Hospice patients are underdogs," Carrie concluded. "And mom was a champion of underdogs."

Thanks to the generosity of community members like the Fisher family, McLeod Hospice and the lights on the Hospice trees will continue filling hearts with comfort.

The Fisher family will always cherish the memory of their beloved wife, mother and grandmother JoAnn Denney Fisher. She is pictured here with her grandchildren (left to right) Cate, Goodman, Fisher, and Ann Fisher.

Hospice staff became a rock for the family and provided tailored emotional support and grief counseling.



# KEEPING UP WITH THE JONESES

by Shaw Thompson

A Family Tradition of Compassionate Care



Cornelia Jones, AGNP-C

Matthew Jones, DO

For many medical professionals, choosing healthcare as a career is a family affair. A parent or grandparent is a physician or nurse, and a desire to follow in their footsteps is kindled within other family members as they watch them care for their friends, neighbors and loved ones.

McLeod General Surgeon **Dr. Matthew Jones** knows this well, as his calling to become a physician

began at home with his parents, Jack and Cornelia Jones, and was confirmed during his father's own health journey.

"My father was a nurse, a massage therapist, and an artist, and my mother was a nurse and later a nurse practitioner," says Dr. Jones. "In each of those roles, they were caring for people, whether directly through medical service, with touch from massage, or emotionally connecting through art

or conversation.

"Witnessing their examples, the question of a career path ultimately became, 'How much do you care? Are you comfortable touching people and being vulnerable in that way?'"

As loving parents, Jack and Cornelia committed themselves to nurturing their son's interests and natural curiosity. It was no surprise that healthcare captured his eye and imagination.

**"When I walk into a patient's room, I want them to feel like they were heard and understood, and trust that I will do my best to figure out what is happening."**  
– Dr. Matthew Jones, McLeod General Surgeon

"Even at a young age, Matthew was very interested in what we did," said **Cornelia Jones, AGNP-C**, a nurse practitioner at McLeod Health Clarendon with more than 30 years of service in healthcare.

"I initially thought he would be an attorney, but because of the illnesses his dad faced, I think Matthew realized he wanted and needed to do something else."

In 2006, Jack began experiencing liver failure. Just a teenager, Matthew and his mother were now caregivers on the receiving end of compassionate service.

"My dad was pretty sick throughout my high school years, in and out of the hospital multiple times," said Dr. Jones. "He then had a sudden aortic dissection and ultimately passed away from that event. What really stuck with me was the compassion and actions of one vascular surgeon.

"I still remember this physician telling my mom, 'No one will want to touch him with a 10-foot pole, but we will take him to the operating room and do what we can.'"

Looking back, that moment helped fortify the natural instincts and intuition for Dr. Jones's calling as a physician.

"When a surgeon tells you, 'We will explore every medical and surgical option and give all we have to you or

your loved one,' that is what you want from your doctor," explained Dr. Jones. "That moment resonated with me because that is the kind of person, not just physician, I want to be."

Coupled with the Jones's desire to care for others is a commitment to the communities where their roots began and continue to grow.

"I was born in Sumter and chose nursing as a result of my grandmother's encouragement," said Cornelia. "She never trained to be a nurse, but she was that person in the neighborhood everyone came to when help was needed. It is both by our nature and her nurturing that I was the first in my family to become a nurse."

Taking care of the neighbors did not stop with her grandmother, as Cornelia has exemplified in her service to residents of Clarendon County, Sumter County and the lowcountry of South Carolina.

"For a time, I worked in rural settings in the lowcountry with **Dr. John Rozich** helping establish care for cardiac patients who otherwise would not have access to those services," said Cornelia. "I learned so much during that time about the needs of smaller communities. You see the needs of the people up close, and it gets in your soul that you want to give back to those who so desperately need it.

"After moving back to Sumter,

I found that same sense of reward at McLeod Health Clarendon, which I feel is a gem for our community. It is one of those places where our providers, nurses and staff treat you like family, because if you are our patient, then you are our family. We enjoy taking care of you. We want you to be well and come back to visit when you have recovered."

McLeod Health Clarendon also holds a special place for Dr. Jones, as his experiences there helped lead to his decision to join the McLeod Health medical staff. Following the completion of his residency training, he joined Pee Dee Surgical Group and serves patients at McLeod Regional Medical Center in Florence.

"I did my third- and fourth-year medical school rotations at McLeod Health Clarendon," said Dr. Jones. "It was clear that the hospital system took care of their providers, and the staff took care of one another. I believe the whole point of training future physicians is to enable them to come back and help the community that raised them.

"McLeod has always been good to me and my family," continued Dr. Jones. "I am honored to have joined a practice of well-respected physicians where I can continue the example of my family and mentors by attending others with a servant's heart."

The family commitment of caring for others established and nurtured by Jack and Cornelia Jones continues to the next generation with their son, General Surgeon Dr. Matthew Jones.





# McLeod MyChart

by Kelly Hughes

One of McLeod Health’s priorities on our journey to deliver medical excellence is to give patients access to their medical information. McLeod MyChart delivers online access 24 hours a day, 7 days a week from the convenience of your computer or smart device.

**From McLeod MyChart, you can:**

- Review summaries of your previous appointments, including issues addressed during each visit, your vital signs, and tests or referrals that were ordered.
- View your medications, including dosage information and instructions, and request a refill.
- View new lab results, as well as trends over time. For example, view results for your past cholesterol tests on a graph to see if you are close to meeting your target number.
- Access your family members’ medical records. For example, you can view your child’s growth charts, immunization history, and upcoming appointments.



“ My dad lives 3 hours away. Using MyChart enables me to help him stay on top of his doctor’s appointments, medications and medical bills. MyChart has been a blessing to our family. – Matt G.

## How to Sign Up for a McLeod MyChart Account.

To sign up for McLeod MyChart, you must be at least 18 years old. There are several different methods available for MyChart signup:

- Clinical staff may sign you up directly while you are at the front desk or in the exam room.
- You may receive a MyChart activation code on your After Visit Summary.
- You may receive a text or email with an activation code when you come in for a visit.
- You may be able to use self-signup online to create a MyChart account by matching your information against what is on file in your medical record or with third-party identity verification.

## How to Log in to McLeod MyChart.

From your internet browser, visit McLeodMyChart.org to access the login page. Enter your username and password, and click **Sign In**.

MyChart for iOS and MyChart for Android are portable versions of MyChart that you can use to manage your health information on the go.

If you have an iOS device, you can pair it with Apple Watch™, which gives you the ability to:


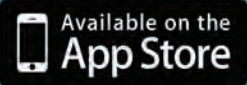
- See alerts for new information in MyChart
- View upcoming appointments
- Read messages
- Review your medication list

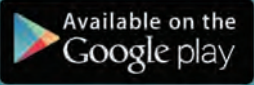
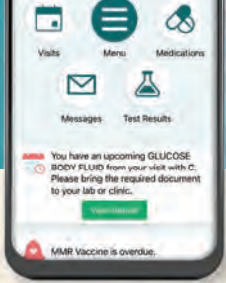
## Download the MyChart App.

To install the MyChart app, go to the App Store or Google Play Store and search for “MyChart.”

After you open the app, select McLeod Health from the list of organizations. You can easily add or switch between your MyChart accounts at different healthcare organizations using the **Switch Organizations** button on the login screen or the **Switch Organization** menu option after you have logged in.

Once you have access to your McLeod MyChart account, you can start to navigate the various features and learn how to use them to take control of your health.









## Health

**View Your Test Results** - With MyChart, you can view test results as soon as they become available, rather than waiting for a phone call or letter from your physician. Know that you will likely see results before your healthcare provider has had a chance to review them. After your provider reviews your results, you might see additional comments and interpretations in MyChart. To view test results, go to **Health > Test Results**. Select a test to see more information about it, such as:

- The standard range for the result
- Any additional comments your provider entered about the result

**Manage Your Medications** - Go to **Health > Medications** to see all of your current medications in one place. You can see details for each medication, including the prescribed dosage, instructions and the physician who prescribed the medication. You can view additional information about a medication, such as precautions to consider when taking the medication and potential side effects, by clicking the **Learn more** link.



## Messaging

**View Messages from Your Clinic** - You can read any messages sent by your doctor or other clinic staff by going to your Inbox (**Messaging > Message Center**).

**Ask Your Doctor for Medical Advice** - If you have a non-urgent medical question, you can send a message to your doctor/nurse. This message is secure, meaning your information stays private as it is sent over the Internet.

You might use the Get Medical Advice feature if you are unsure whether you should come in for an appointment, if you need clarification on the dosage of one of your medications or something that was discussed in a recent visit, or if you just want advice about a common illness.

- Go to **Messaging > Ask a Question**.
- Click **New Medical Question**.
- Select a recipient from the list. This list might include your primary care provider, another doctor you have recently seen or the general nursing staff at the clinic.
- Select a subject for your message and enter your question.
- When you are finished, click **Send**.

Someone at your clinic should respond to you within two business days. If you have opted to receive notifications for new messages in your MyChart account, you will receive a message or push notification letting you know that the clinic has responded to your request.

**Sending a message to your provider should never be used if you are having an emergency. Always call 911 or visit your nearest emergency department if you need immediate care.**



## Family Access

If you have access to your family members' medical records, you can view most of the information in their records in the same way that you view your own. Some things that might be particularly useful include:

- Viewing or printing your child's immunization record
- Viewing your child's growth charts
- Viewing a family member's test results

After you have received permission, you can view a family member's records by clicking the photo or name for that family member in MyChart.

After you read the proxy access disclaimer, click **Accept** to continue to your family member's chart.

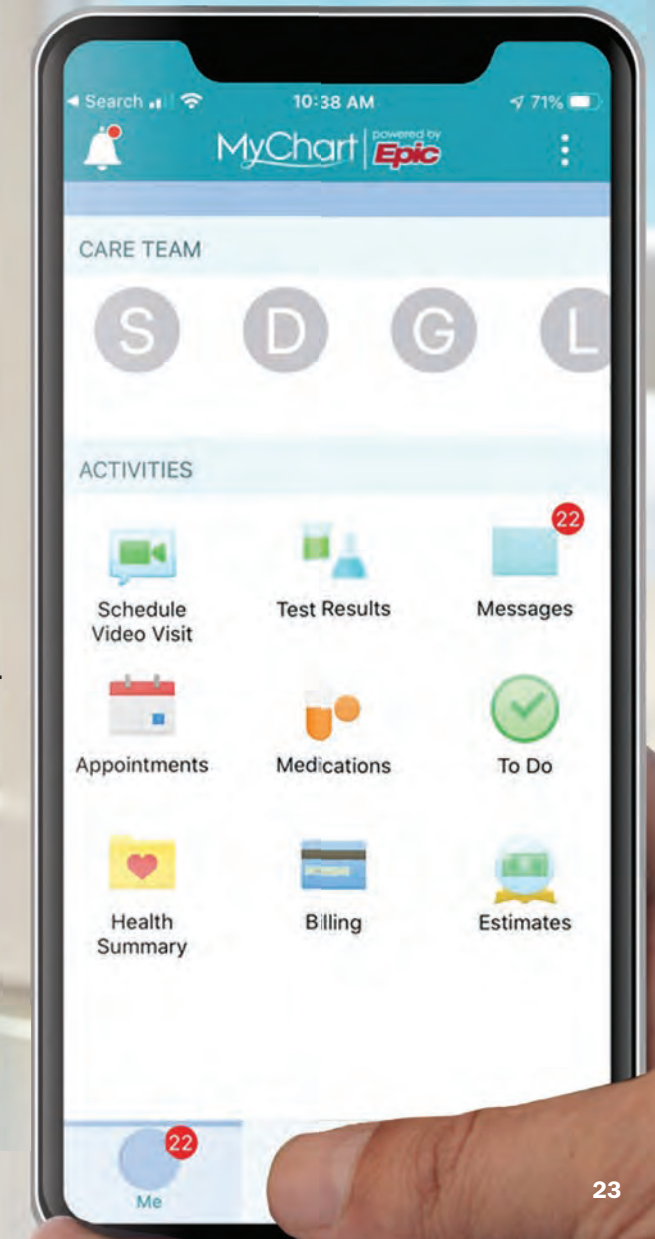
### Invite Someone Else to Access Your Record -

1. Go to **Health > Share My Record** and select **Friends and Family Access**.
2. On the Friends and Family Access page, click Invite Someone under the Who Can See My Record? section.

3. Enter that person's name and email address, confirm the level of access, and click **Send Invite**. The invitation then appears as Pending at the top of the page.

- After you send the invitation, the recipient receives an email to notify them that you have invited them to have access to your account. From this email, they can click a link that takes them to a page where they must enter your date of birth to confirm that they know you and accept the invitation.

4. You will receive a tickler message to let you know when the person has received your invitation. The Pending label is then removed from that person's name on the Friends and Family Access page. You can return to this page at any time to edit or revoke that person's access.







## Billing and Insurance

**View Your Outstanding Balance** - To see the outstanding account balance for any of your accounts, go to **Billing > Billing Summary**. To view additional information about an account, including past statements, click the View account link.

### Make a Payment -

1. Go to **Billing > Billing Summary**.
2. Click **Pay Now** for the account on which you want to make a payment.
3. Enter the amount to pay along with your credit card or bank account information. Click **Continue**.
4. Review your payment information and click **Submit Payment**.

And this is just the beginning. McLeod MyChart offers additional features designed to make managing your healthcare easy and convenient. For more information or to request your activation code, speak to your healthcare provider at any McLeod Physician Associates office or hospital registration department. Our commitment is to continue providing excellent healthcare to you and your family.



I use MyChart to communicate with my son's doctor and his nurse about my son's condition. I love being able to send him a message and receive a response without having to call the office. MyChart also helps me keep up with his blood test results so we can track and trend how his medications are working. – Jennifer H.

# Top 5 Reasons to Sign Up for McLeod MyChart



Access  
Your Health  
Information



Schedule/  
Request  
Appointments



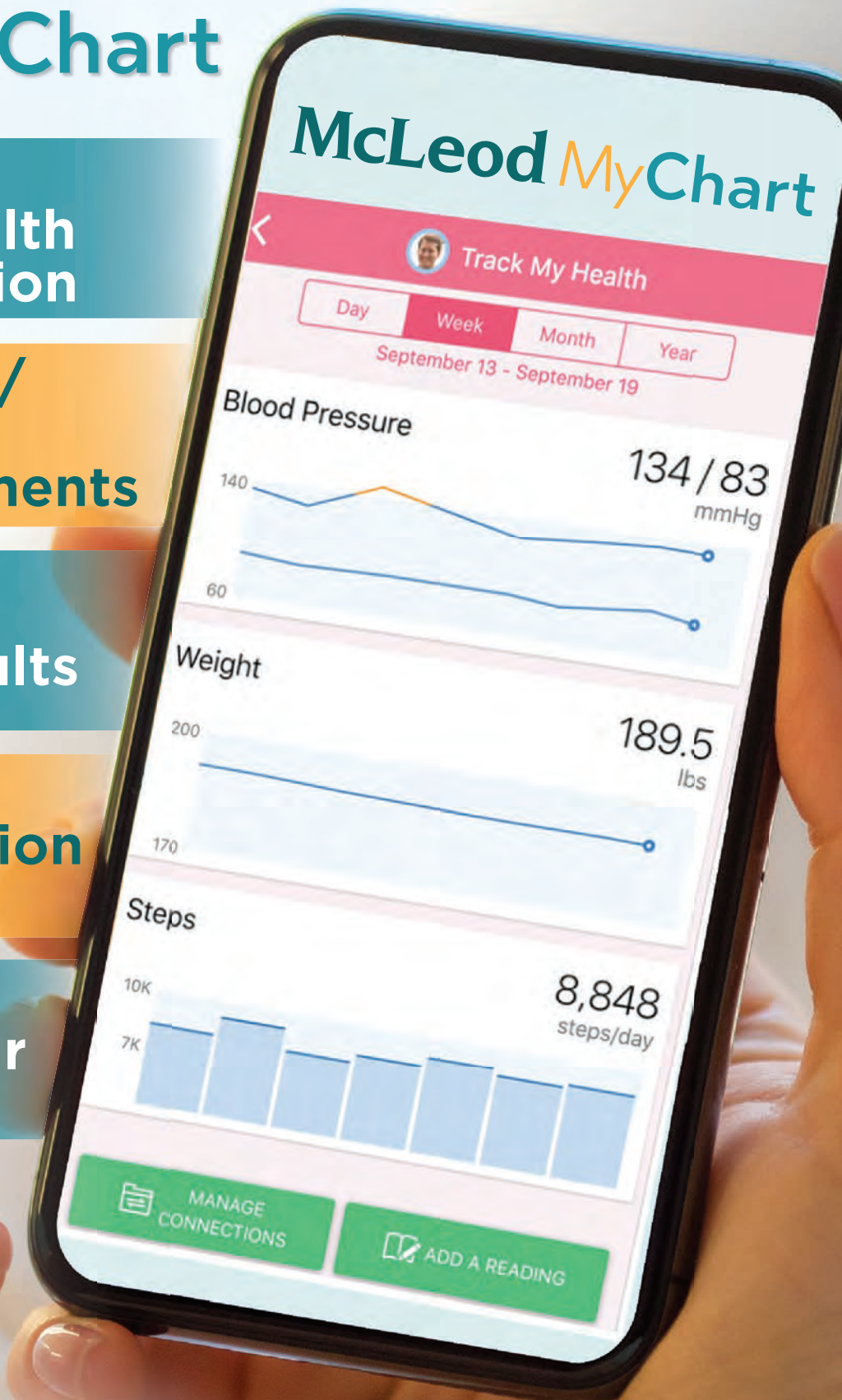
Access  
Test Results



Request  
Prescription  
Refills



Message  
With Your  
Provider





## AN UNEXPECTED

# Journey

by Arielle Williams Miles

Ashley Hatchell, RN, started her journey in the Environmental Services department at McLeod Health Cheraw in 2016. After receiving encouragement from the hospital's staff and leadership, she embarked on her journey to becoming a Registered Nurse in 2022.

Ashley Hatchell, Registered Nurse, was hired at McLeod Health Cheraw as a housekeeper in May 2016 by Theo Willard, Director of Environmental Services. In just a few short years, she has since blossomed into one of the most caring nurses at the hospital. She is consistently mentioned in patient testimonials, survey feedback and verbal accolades regarding her kindness, humble spirit, and willingness to help wherever she is needed. Fast forward to today – Ashley is one of the first smiling faces patients see when they arrive on the Medical Surgical Unit.

Working as an environmental specialist was a natural transition into nursing for Ashley because patient-centered compassion is truly the backbone of what both roles involve. When asked what caring looks like, patient after patient mentions housekeeping in the same breath as the nursing staff.

“Ashley is a gentle, thoughtful person with a dedication and desire to grow into a competent, compassionate nurse,” said Dan Allen, RN, Vice President and Chief Nursing Officer for McLeod Health Cheraw.

“She has had a wonderful journey so far, forever humble and joyful in her work, no matter the task or the team around her. Her family at McLeod Health Cheraw celebrates Ashley’s journey of development. We are so proud of her and are thankful that we have her as part of our team.”

The support of her colleagues has been a lifeline during Ashley’s pursuit of a nursing career. Every department from Nutrition Services to Administration has championed her along the way in every step of her new venture.

With the encouragement from fellow peers, administrative leaders and practically the entire hospital staff, Ashley delved into the nursing program partnership with Northeastern Technical College in Cheraw. She worked her way diligently through the program, earning her Licensed Practical Nurse certification then graduating with her Associate Degree in Nursing in May 2022. But, she refused to stop there. In July 2022, she went on to pass her NCLEX exam, became a Registered Nurse and has served on the Medical Surgical Unit ever since.

Ashley advises anyone who is considering going into the nursing field

to ensure they have a strong support team behind them, time to dedicate to the program and most importantly, confidence that they can achieve their goal.

The aspect of her job that brings her the most joy and fulfillment is seeing her patients get better and feeling their appreciation and gratitude for taking care of them. “I think it really comes down to the little things,” said Ashley. “Simply listening to your patient and encouraging them matters.”

Working in Environmental Services gave her a true behind-the-scenes view of the medical field. “It humbled me and allowed me to see not only a different side of nursing, but also a different side of the patient experience,” said Ashley. “All of this has prepared me for becoming a nurse and makes me appreciate where I am now.”

In her free time, Ashley adores her two young boys who she says keep her busy outside doing all the “boy things.” She says if she is not holding a fishing rod or cleaning the fish they catch together, she can be found outside playing baseball with them.

In November, Ashley began working as an Operating Room Nurse and looks forward to growing with McLeod Health through the years ahead.

**“Supporting my patients really comes down to the little things: truly listening to what they have to say, encouraging them as much as possible while they are here and showing them empathy.”**

– Ashley Hatchell, Registered Nurse, McLeod Health Cheraw

## SHOULDER 2 SHOULDER

by Leslie A. Mikell



Brothers and across-the-street neighbors Glenn Godfrey and Jason Godfrey of Florence can be described as “serial entrepreneurs.” Between the two of them, they own and operate Quality Air Tool (QAT), a business their father started in the late 1970s that now has offices in Florence, Raleigh, and Atlanta; Pee Dee Tank, a Florence-based storage tank manufacturer started in the 1950s; and are partners in Power Clean Systems, a car wash equipment company based in Sumter.

These brothers also share a passion for owning and acquiring industrial, commercial and retail properties in Florence. The pair stay busy with their business ventures and enjoy active lifestyles both at work and outside of work.

However, a series of shoulder overuse injuries found both Jason and Glenn in the hands of Dr. Pat Denton, Orthopedic Surgeon at McLeod Regional Medical Center, and Medical Director of McLeod Orthopaedics.

**Pictured together in the QAT showroom in Florence, SC, brothers Jason Godfrey and Glenn Godfrey trusted Dr. Pat Denton with their shoulder surgeries and were pleased with their outcomes.**





Glenn Godfrey

Throughout his life, Glenn has stayed extremely active, playing tennis, running local road races, doing CrossFit exercises, and being constantly on-the-go at work. Over time, the wear and tear of these high-impact activities took a toll on his joints, especially his right shoulder.

Glenn previously received care from Dr. Denton for a knee injury, so

he consulted him again for this new shoulder pain. "I trust Dr. Pat Denton and Nurse Practitioner Meredith Banner," said Glenn. "They are who I called on first."

After several years of local steroid injections in his shoulder, the pain continued to reduce his ability to do the activities he enjoyed.

"Based on Glenn's symptoms and the MRI of his shoulder, he had a large chronic rotator cuff tear that had retracted to the point that traditional rotator cuff repair surgery would not be an option. His rotator cuff tissue was atrophied and severely torn. As a result, he was an excellent candidate for Superior Capsule Reconstruction," said Dr. Denton.

"Superior Capsule Reconstruction (SCR) is minimally invasive shoulder surgery that repairs large chronic and retracted rotator cuff tears using allograft tissue (donor tissue) to rebuild

or reconstruct the damaged rotator cuff tendons. This procedure yields a very strong repair of the torn rotator cuff and patients can quickly return to their daily activities," he continued.

In November 2020, Dr. Denton performed Superior Capsule Reconstruction on Glenn's right shoulder.

"I was impressed with the renewed mobility, motion, and strength in my shoulder within days after surgery. I had almost no pain at all, both after the surgery and during physical therapy," recalls Glenn.

**"I WAS IMPRESSED WITH THE RENEWED MOBILITY, MOTION, AND STRENGTH IN MY SHOULDER WITHIN DAYS AFTER SURGERY."**  
- GLENN GODFREY

## DR. DENTON AND GLENN GODFREY SET A SURGICAL MILESTONE

Glenn's story with Dr. Denton began more than 20 years ago when he tore the ACL and MCL in his left knee. Dr. Denton performed surgery to repair his knee and the two have maintained contact personally and professionally since then. Over time, and as Glenn continued a rigorous and high-impact exercise routine, that knee deteriorated, becoming more and more painful. After Glenn agreed to switch to lower-impact exercises, he and Dr. Denton decided together that a total knee replacement was the best choice.

As technology has advanced the tools and methods surgeons use during total joint replacement procedures, it has also reduced pain and recovery times for patients. In January 2019, Glenn was the first patient to undergo a total knee replacement at the Outpatient Surgery

Center in Florence. Many of the total knee replacements performed at McLeod Hospitals are also outpatient procedures, which means patients are discharged home within hours of their procedure and do not spend a single night in the hospital after the surgery.

"The procedures we perform now are 'not your father's' or 'not your grandfather's' knee replacement surgery. Thanks to advances in technology, equipment and methods, especially the addition of robotics, patients experience reduced pain and have a shorter recovery period than knee replacements of the past," says Dr. Denton. "Modern joint replacements have an increased lifespan, so more and more we are treating younger and active patients who are excellent candidates for joint replacement."

Jason also experienced pain in both of his shoulders from years of physical labor. He underwent rotator cuff repair surgery on his left shoulder with Dr. Denton in 2016. Eventually, the pain in his right shoulder reached the point where he could not complete everyday tasks at work, such as lifting. Jason was ready to consider surgery again.

"I saw Dr. Denton, and he explained the new shoulder reconstruction procedure he could perform. I knew my brother recovered very quickly from it, so I was willing to get my second shoulder done," comments Jason.

In November 2021, a year after his brother Glenn underwent SCR surgery on his right shoulder, Dr. Denton

performed the same surgery on Jason's right shoulder.

"Although I'm 50 years old, my shoulders feel like I'm 20 again," says Jason. "Dr. Denton completely rebuilt my shoulder."

Glenn adds, "At first, I was hesitant to have the surgery because I was worried about the downtime, thinking I would be in a brace for months. If I had known it would be as easy as it was, I would have done the surgery months earlier."

After their shoulder surgeries, the brothers both completed rehabilitation with McLeod Sports Medicine and Rehabilitation. Now, everyday tasks are simple and painless for them.



Jason Godfrey

**"ALTHOUGH I'M 50 YEARS OLD, MY SHOULDERS FEEL LIKE I'M 20 AGAIN."**  
- JASON GODFREY



Dr. Pat Denton is pictured here performing a minimally invasive arthroscopic shoulder surgery in the McLeod Outpatient Surgery Center.

Dr. Pat Denton performed the Superior Capsule Reconstruction surgeries for both Glenn and Jason at the McLeod Outpatient Surgery Center in Florence, which is located on the first floor of McLeod Medical Park Five, on the McLeod Regional Medical Center campus. There, patients can have orthopedic surgery and go home the same day, without having to step foot in the hospital.

"Having the procedure at the Outpatient Surgery Center was very convenient and a smooth process. Everyone from registration to surgery prep had a warm and personable demeanor," recalls Jason. "We checked in around 6:00 a.m., and I was discharged and ready to go home by noon that same day."

Glenn says, "From the time I walked in the door to the time I left, every part of the experience was first class. Because of my experience and trust in providers like Dr. Denton and Meredith Banner, there's nowhere else I would consider going but McLeod."



# Growing

by Carrie Anna Strange

## TO MEET THE NEEDS OF GROWING FAMILIES



The Jones family is forever grateful to Certified Nurse Midwife Tom Chappell and the care team at McLeod Health Clarendon for the excellent care they received during the birth of their children, Carson and Wells.

Shelley Jones, a native of Blythewood, South Carolina, and her husband F.B. were ecstatic to learn in 2015 that they would soon become a family of three. Shelley immediately made an appointment with McLeod Women’s Care Clarendon, which led her to Certified Nurse Midwife **Tom Chappell, MSN, CNM, FACNM.**

Midwives provide care for female patients and their families during adolescence, pregnancy, childbirth and the postpartum period. The Midwives and Physicians of McLeod Women’s Care Clarendon work as an integrated team to care for patients.

“A Certified Nurse Midwife begins as a registered nurse, obtains a bachelor’s degree in nursing (BSN), then completes a graduate program in Midwifery,” explains Tom. “We play a key role with pregnant women, but our function is much larger in scope. In addition to helping mothers manage pregnancies and deliver babies, midwives provide care to women of all ages.”

Excited and nervous about being

a first-time mom, Shelley attended birthing classes at McLeod Health Clarendon taught by Adriane Gaff, MBA, RN. At that time, Adriane served as Perinatal Coordinator for the hospital. “She helped calm my fears and lower my anxiety,” recalls Shelley. “The prenatal group classes helped me feel informed and knowledgeable while developing my birth plan.”

On March 7, 2016, after 63 hours of labor, Carson decided to make her way into the world, arriving at 4:00 p.m. and weighing four pounds, 15 ounces.

“Tom and the staff reassured and comforted me by communicating everything as it happened,” said Shelley.

Two years later, Shelley and F.B. learned that they were expecting their second child. On July 24, 2018, Wells arrived at 12:30 p.m. weighing eight pounds, 12 ounces.

Shelley credits the entire Women’s Services team at McLeod Health Clarendon for two wonderful birth experiences.

“Having a baby is one of life’s most

cherished experiences, and I am forever grateful for Tom. He was there for us before, during and after the birth of both of my children,” said Shelley. “Carson is now 6 and Wells is now 4, and we are incredibly thankful for God’s most precious blessings.”

Another unique feature of McLeod Women’s Care Clarendon is having a certified Centering Pregnancy® program. The program involves a group of expecting mothers who receive prenatal care together over 10 sessions. The group meets monthly for the first four sessions and then bi-weekly for the last six sessions. Each session lasts about two hours, and the program typically begins between 12 and 16 weeks of pregnancy.

Additionally, Centering has been shown to lower rates of pre-term births and underweight babies as well as increase breastfeeding rates. Outcomes are improved by increasing access to prenatal education and empowering women to take an active role in their care.



McLeod Women’s Care Clarendon providers include (left to right): Allison Saran, CNM; Shay Dowdle, CNM; Thomas Key, MD; Katee Wyant, MD; Monica Ploetzke, MD; Rebecca Cartledge, CNM; and Tom Chappell, CNM.

McLeod Health Clarendon Women’s Services and the providers of McLeod Women’s Care Clarendon offer healthcare for women at every stage of their lives, including general OB/GYN care, labor and delivery, specialty care in urogynecology, menopause treatment, infertility and pelvic health including incontinence and pelvic organ prolapse.

McLeod Health Clarendon Quality Recognition for Maternity Care:

2022 – Leapfrog Group - Best Hospital for Maternity Care

2021 – BlueCross BlueShield of South Carolina - Blue Distinction® Centers+ (BDC+) for Maternity Care designation, as part of the Blue Distinction Specialty Care program.





# Doubling Down on DIABETES

by Jessica Wall

**The Long family have experienced firsthand the benefits of having a pediatric endocrinology specialist when two of their children, Abigail and Faith, were diagnosed with type 1 diabetes.**

“Your daughter has type 1 diabetes.” Theresa Long can still recall her disbelief when she heard these words from an Emergency Department physician four years ago. She and her husband Michael had taken their nine-year-old daughter Abigail to McLeod Regional Medical Center after a minor accident at home.

While performing a routine check-up, doctors discovered that her blood sugar level was above 700. A blood sugar level less than 140 is considered normal.

Abigail was then admitted to McLeod Children’s Hospital.

“It was totally a God thing,” explains Theresa. “Had it not been for her accident, we would have never

known about her diabetes.”

“I remember feeling so many emotions,” recalls Abigail. “I felt nervous, confused and scared because I knew nothing about diabetes. I was disappointed in myself because I thought it was my fault, which I now know is not true.”

While in the hospital, Abigail learned a great deal from her care team about how to manage her diabetes, including giving herself insulin injections. Upon discharge, Abigail was connected with **Lisa Woodberry, FNP**, of McLeod Pediatric Endocrinology, for the management of her diabetes.

Six months later, Theresa and Michael noticed their youngest child, Faith, chugging water and experiencing increased urination. Now armed with testing materials at home, they discovered that Faith’s blood sugar level was 500 and rushed her to the hospital for an official diagnosis. Testing confirmed that their 15-month-old had type 1 diabetes as well.

Type 1 diabetes is an autoimmune condition that causes the insulin-producing cells (beta cells) in the pancreas to shut down. Once these cells shut down, the patient will require insulin replacement. It is commonly diagnosed in children and young adults under age 20. It is estimated that 80,000 children develop diabetes

each year. The symptoms of type 1 diabetes in a child are weight loss, increased thirst, increased urination and vomiting.

It is rare that siblings are affected. McLeod Pediatric Endocrinology follows only about five sibling groups.

“That was a crazy year for the Long family,” recalls Theresa. “We are so thankful for Lisa and her entire team. She has supported us every step of the way. I never have to worry when Lisa is involved, and we consider her part of our family. My girls are genuinely excited for their appointments.”

Because of the McLeod Health mission to provide specialized care for children close to home, the hospital offered everything the Long family did not know they needed.

“It is such a relief knowing that this level of care is right here,” says Theresa. “As a mom of four, it can be challenging to travel for this ongoing care every few months.”

Lisa explains that when a patient is first diagnosed with type 1 diabetes, they undergo frequent visits for several months. Once patients are self-sufficient with their care, follow up is expanded to every three months. “We also may see them between appointments if they are having problems. In addition, we often follow up by phone to review blood sugar levels or make insulin adjustments.”

There are also times when patients with diabetes need to be admitted to the hospital for more extensive care. Thankfully, McLeod Children’s Hospital has both a pediatric floor and a Pediatric Intensive Care Unit (PICU) to serve patients with various medical needs.

“Usually when the girls are sick and unable to keep food down, their blood sugar levels stay low and require a hospital admission,” explains Theresa.

“On one occasion, Abigail was so sick she stayed in the PICU until her blood sugar levels stabilized.”

Now 14 and five years old, Abigail and Faith are navigating their type 1 diabetes journeys with strength and determination.

Faith is enrolled in 5K, and Theresa and Lisa work closely with the school nurses to develop the best routine for her.

Abigail continues to play an active role in managing her diabetes, though she has faced challenges along the way.

One of those was the honeymoon phase, which does not happen to every patient. This most commonly occurs within a few months after diagnosis but can occur anytime. During this period, the pancreas appears to be making a little bit of insulin before it completely shuts down. It is common to need much less insulin than is usually required. This phase can last a few weeks up to a few months.

Despite her challenges, Abigail shows a resilience beyond her years. She is active in sports and loves singing and dancing. She also looks forward to Camp Adam Fischer, which she describes as the “best diabetes camp ever.” This summer camp is for children diagnosed with type 1 diabetes and allows them to enjoy normal activities while providing parents with the comfort of knowing that their diabetes is being well-managed.

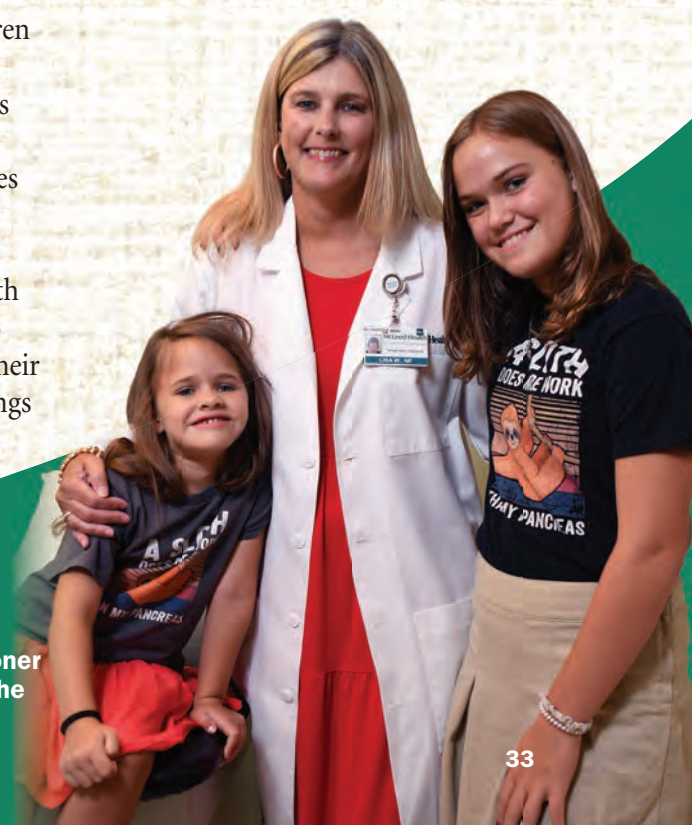
With technological advancements in diabetes care, both Abigail and Faith wear continuous glucose monitors so Theresa can have constant access to their numbers. The peace of mind this brings is priceless.

“This journey has certainly increased our faith in God,” explains Theresa. “I have confidence in Abigail’s ability to manage her diabetes, and I know that Faith will be okay. We have technology and tools to help us live normal lives while knowing that everyone is healthy. Our motto is, ‘we manage diabetes; diabetes does not manage us.’”

“Faith and Abigail amaze me,” says Lisa. “They have learned to live a normal life and not let their diabetes slow them down at all. They have amazing parents who supervise them and alert us if they need anything. Because Abigail is older, she has stepped up and tried to do her care on her own. I am so proud of her. They both wear the most up-to-date technology to care for their diabetes and try to keep their sugars controlled. The best thing about both girls are their precious personalities and ability to fight diabetes with smiles on their faces.”

**Our motto is, ‘we manage diabetes; diabetes does not manage us.’**

- Theresa Long



**Abigail and Faith Long adore their healthcare provider, Nurse Practitioner Lisa Woodberry, and all the ways she helps them navigate a normal life with type 1 diabetes.**





**Retta Ballentine is grateful for the continued support and care she receives from McLeod Neurologist Dr. Deborah Kirby and McLeod Family Medicine Physician Dr. Donald Behling.**

# Unraveling the Mystery

by Tammy White

Henrietta Ballentine, or Retta as she likes to be called, received a call to follow up with her Primary Care Physician **Dr. Donald Behling** of McLeod Plaza Family Medicine regarding the results of her routine lab work.

“Dr. Behling told me my protein was a little high in my kidneys,” said Retta. “He sent me for a gastroenterology consult and testing, but everything came back okay.”

Not long after her appointment with Dr. Behling, Retta noticed that she could not move her arms above her head or

walk a straight line down her hallway.

Retta’s body then began aching, and her muscles were sore. As time went by, she became weaker and weaker.

“A quick ten-minute shower was now taking me 20 to 25 minutes and bathing was painful,” said Retta. “Whenever I had to drive, I would fall into the driver’s seat and use my hands to lift each leg into the car. Just the act of turning the steering wheel was a chore.”

A creatine phosphokinase blood test (CPK) showed elevated numbers.

“When the levels are high in a

CPK blood test, it often means there has been an injury or stress to the muscle tissue,” said Dr. Behling. “We needed to determine what was causing her weakness.”

Dr. Behling referred Retta to McLeod Neurologist **Dr. Deborah Kirby** with McLeod Neurological Associates.

Dr. Kirby met with Retta to start unraveling her medical mystery. She ordered additional blood work to dig deeper into the situation.

When the results of the blood work returned, Retta was admitted to

McLeod Regional Medical Center for three days due to the high levels of protein. The doctors were concerned that Retta’s kidneys would shut down.

While in the hospital Retta underwent a muscle biopsy to detect any disorders or infections that would affect the muscles.

The biopsy is typically the key to diagnosis, according to Dr. Kirby. However, in Retta’s situation, it took pairing the results with the latest blood tests to give the full picture.

Retta was ultimately diagnosed with Nectrotizing Autoimmune Myopathy.

“I was stunned when she said those words to me,” said Retta. “Mainly because I had never heard of it.”

Nectrotizing Autoimmune Myopathy is an extremely rare disease that very few people contract. A rare disease in the United States is defined as a condition affecting fewer than 200,000 people.

“It is a newly recognized form of myositis, which is a group of rare conditions where the main symptoms are weak, painful, aching muscles,” said Dr. Kirby.

“The way Dr. Kirby explained it to me it meant that my muscles are dying,” said Retta. “She also told me this is a disease with no known cause or cure. I will have this for the rest of my life.”

Dr. Kirby assured Retta they would work together on a treatment plan to help manage her symptoms and give her a better quality of life.

Retta started with medications and weekly four-hour infusions. “I could tell when I started getting stronger,” said Retta.

By working together with Dr. Kirby, Retta has cut back on some of her medications and her infusion treatments are now every other week.

Believing exercise would be beneficial, Retta started walking in her neighborhood in Florence. She also uses resistance bands, kettlebells and arm weights.

“I do not walk too far from the house, but just getting out a couple times a week makes me feel good,” said Retta.

“With Nectrotizing Autoimmune Myopathy, it is important to maintain muscle strength,” said Dr. Behling. “The only way to do this is to stay active. I am proud of how Retta has empowered herself to make lifestyle changes that improve her ability to function.”

An appeals specialist for Medicare, Retta says she was fortunate to keep working even though her typing slowed down considerably before her stamina returned.

“I knew something was wrong and it was a blessing having Dr. Kirby and Dr. Behling working together to get answers,” said Retta. “I know I will never be back to the full strength I was before my disease, but with their guidance I have embraced the changes and take each challenge as it comes.”

“  
I knew something was wrong and it was a blessing having Dr. Kirby and Dr. Behling working together to get answers.”

Retta knows that exercise is important in the management of her disease, Nectrotizing Autoimmune Myopathy.



**Retta uses kettlebells as part of her weekly exercise routine.**





# MEET THE NEW PHYSICIANS

## PROVIDING NEUROLOGY CARE

by Tammy White



Dr. Nicole Hogan and Dr. Christopher Zust are board certified neurologists who care for patients at McLeod Neurological Associates in Florence. Dr. Hogan and Dr. Zust are accepting new patients by physician referral.

For patients needing the services of a Neurologist, physicians trained in brain and nervous systems conditions, the husband and wife team of **Dr. Nicole Hogan** and **Dr. Christopher Zust** have joined with **Dr. Deborah Kirby** and **Charlotte Hanna, PA-C**, in providing care at McLeod Neurological Associates.

Dr. Hogan and Dr. Zust graduated from medical school at Wright State University Boonshoft School of Medicine in Dayton, Ohio. They then completed a Neurology Residency at the University of South Carolina/Prisma Health in Columbia, South Carolina. After residency, they pursued further training by completing fellowship programs. Dr. Hogan completed an Epilepsy fellowship at University Hospitals/Case Western Reserve University, and Dr. Zust completed a Neuromuscular fellowship with the Cleveland Clinic.

“Neurology patients are usually at a very vulnerable time in their lives,” explains Dr. Hogan. “They often do not know what is causing their condition. They may have been seen by several doctors already but are at the point of needing additional specialized care. I like helping these patients, working with them to improve their quality of life.”

“Neurology is a fantastic, interesting field of medicine that is continually expanding and growing,” says Dr. Zust. “It is very satisfying to help patients in search of answers. Many times, illnesses can seem like a puzzle and you need to pull all the

pieces together with diagnostic testing, a physical exam, clinical history and review of symptoms to determine the big picture.”

A Neuromuscular fellowship provided Dr. Zust additional training in the clinical diagnosis and management of neuromuscular disorders. The fellowship in Epilepsy offered Dr. Hogan additional training and education in diagnosing and managing various kinds of seizures.

Epilepsy is a brain disorder that involves reoccurring, unprovoked seizures. Epilepsy is not rare and can occur as a single condition or with other conditions affecting the brain, such as cerebral palsy, Alzheimer’s Disease or traumatic brain injury.

If a primary care physician suspects their patient may have epilepsy, they can refer the patient to any one of the neurologists at McLeod Neurological Associates.

Patients are prescribed treatment based on the type of seizures they are experiencing and other medical conditions. Medication is the most common treatment. The goal of the physicians at McLeod Neurological Associates is to work with patients to find the right treatment plan so they may live a life free from seizures.

Epilepsy is just one neurological disorder that the team treats. There are several neuromuscular disorders that a neurologist can manage.

Neuromuscular disorders affect the function of muscles due to problems with the nerves and muscles in the body. The most common sign of these disorders is muscle weakness.

In neuromuscular disorders, there is usually a problem with the way the nervous system communicates to the muscles. This results in twitching, cramps, aches, muscle weakening and movement problems.

The diagnosis starts with a simple clinical observation during which the physician looks for loss of muscle bulk and/or tone.

Blood tests may be performed to measure the levels of proteins, vitamins or other compounds which can be seen in neuromuscular disorders.

Common muscular disorders that the physicians of McLeod Neurological Associates treat include:

- Carpal Tunnel Syndrome
- Muscular Dystrophy
- Myasthenia Gravis
- Alzheimer’s Disease
- Migraines
- Epilepsy and Seizures

More advanced testing, such as an electromyography (EMG) can also be performed to uncover the diagnosis for certain neuromuscular disorders.

Many neuromuscular disorders have no cure, but they can be effectively managed and treated. By working with the physicians of McLeod Neurological Associates patients can experience improved symptoms, increased mobility, and enhanced quality of life.



## McLeod Cancer Center Announces New Physicians

McLeod Health offers residents from the Midlands to the Coast with expanded access to preventative medicine, individualized cancer treatment focusing on each patient’s diagnosis, care and recovery, as well as state-of-the-art technology.

Physicians specializing in medical oncology, radiation oncology, surgery, pathology and radiology

collaborate each day in recommending treatment plans for patients facing cancer.

Driven by a commitment to make this specialized care more widely available for patients, the McLeod Center for Cancer Treatment and Research has announced the addition of two new physicians, **Dr. Dioval Remonde** and **Dr. Kerolos Rizk**.



Dioval Remonde, MD

A Radiation Oncologist, Dr. Remonde joins **Dr. Virginia Clyburn-Ipock** and **Dr. Rhett Spencer** in caring for patients at the McLeod Cancer Center.

Dr. Remonde received his medical degree from the Brody School of Medicine at East Carolina University in Greenville, North Carolina. He completed a residency in Radiation Oncology at the University of Texas Health San Antonio MD Anderson Cancer Center in San Antonio, Texas.

A radiation oncologist, Dr. Remonde oversees the care

of patients receiving radiation and develops a treatment plan that is individualized for each patient and their cancer diagnosis. He also works alongside medical oncologists, surgeons and other physicians to determine the most appropriate course of treatment for patients diagnosed with cancer at McLeod.

“It is an exciting time in the field of radiation oncology,” said Dr. Remonde. “We have the opportunity to make a difference in our patients’ lives and give them hope. At McLeod, we are also

dedicated to ensuring patients are aware of all possible options so they can make sound, informed decisions about their care, and we are committed to offering the latest advancements in cancer technology to improve survival and access to care.”

For information about scheduling appointments with Dr. Remonde, please call (843) 777-2014. McLeod Radiation Oncology is located in the McLeod Center for Cancer Treatment and Research, 401 E. Cheves Street in Florence, South Carolina.

A Medical Oncologist, Dr. Rizk joins **Dr. Donny Huynh** in caring for patients at McLeod Oncology and Hematology Associates at Seacoast, a Department of McLeod Regional Medical Center.

“As a native of Raleigh, North Carolina, I’m excited to be back home on the east coast,” said Dr. Rizk.

Dr. Rizk received his medical degree from DeBusk College of Osteopathic Medicine in Harrogate, Tennessee. He completed a residency in Internal Medicine at

the University of South Carolina School of Medicine in Greenville, South Carolina, and a fellowship in Hematology and Oncology at the University of Missouri in Columbia, Missouri.

Fellowship trained in Hematology and Oncology, Dr. Rizk specializes in the diagnosis and treatment of all cancer types including blood disorders. Some of his specialties include gastrointestinal cancer, kidney cancer and melanoma.

“I enjoy being an advocate for

my patients during their journey, from start to finish,” said Dr. Rizk. “Building relationships with my patients are important to me, and I love making them smile, even on the worst day.”

Dr. Rizk welcomes new patients by referral. For more information or to schedule an appointment, please call (843) 366-3891. The McLeod Oncology and Hematology Associates at Seacoast office is located at McLeod Health Seacoast, 4000 Highway 9 East, Suite 250, in Little River.



Kerolos Rizk, DO

## Research Partnership Allows Patients to Participate Locally

“Being a part of this network helps expand our research efforts and offers new treatment options to patients who could benefit from immunotherapy and targeted therapies.”



The Oncology Research staff at the McLeod Center for Cancer Treatment and Research includes Jennifer Floyd, RN, Michelle Gandy, RN, and Betsy Harris, RN.

Discovering new ways to treat and prevent diseases is at the center of medical research. Today, thanks to a new partnership with Guardian Research Network (GRN), McLeod is expanding care options so local patients have access to cutting-edge research without leaving the area to participate in studies.

Guardian Research Network enhances the research efforts of McLeod by bringing more diagnostic and treatment options to patients in northeastern South Carolina and southeastern North Carolina communities.

McLeod joins other GRN member health systems committed to continuously exploring improvements in patient care by playing a role in the discovery of new ways to diagnose and treat diseases, such as cancer. “We are pleased to welcome McLeod Health to GRN,” said Shirley Trainor-Thomas, Vice President of Partner Network. “With the long history McLeod Health

has for providing quality care, it is a perfect fit with the GRN family of not-for-profit health systems and will bring another dimension to the network,” she commented.

Joining this network underscores the McLeod commitment to innovation by leveraging new capabilities and facilitating connections to ground-breaking research. As a locally-owned system, McLeod Health is committed to achieving higher levels of medical excellence and aligning programs to ensure the delivery of medical services to families where they live and work, according to Judy Bibbo, Vice President of Patient Services for McLeod.

“McLeod has had a research program in place for 40 years. Being a part of this network helps expand our research efforts and offers new treatment options to patients who could benefit from immunotherapy and targeted therapies, for example,” explained Bibbo.

Representing more than 2.5 million

patients across the country, Guardian Research Network focuses on advancing healthcare data technology and introducing clinical trials that lead to accelerating cures for life-threatening diseases. “Working with McLeod Health allows us to bring the community increased opportunities for clinical trials and advanced treatment options,” Trainor-Thomas added.

Involvement in cancer research at McLeod is supported by multiple research partners, including GRN, the National Cancer Institute (NCI) and the Southeast Clinical Oncology Research Consortium (SCOR). McLeod is dedicated to providing area residents the opportunity to participate in a clinical trial that best suits their unique needs.

*If you are interested in learning more about participating in research at McLeod, please call the McLeod Cancer Research team at (843) 777-6387.*



# An Evening of Hope and Inspiration

23rd Annual Cancer Benefit Raises More Than \$148,000 for the McLeod HOPE Fund



During the 23rd Annual An Evening of Hope Cancer Benefit, Survivor Johnny Echols and his friend Cassandra Douglas celebrate his survivorship and donations to the McLeod HOPE Fund which provided him with a new walker and free medication.

Providing thousands of cancer patients in the region with assistance related to transportation, medications, nutrition and personal financial challenges, the McLeod HOPE (Helping Oncology Patients Everyday) Fund benefits oncology patient support services and provides oncology staff with improved access for immediate needs for their patients.

This is made possible annually through gifts directed to the HOPE Fund.

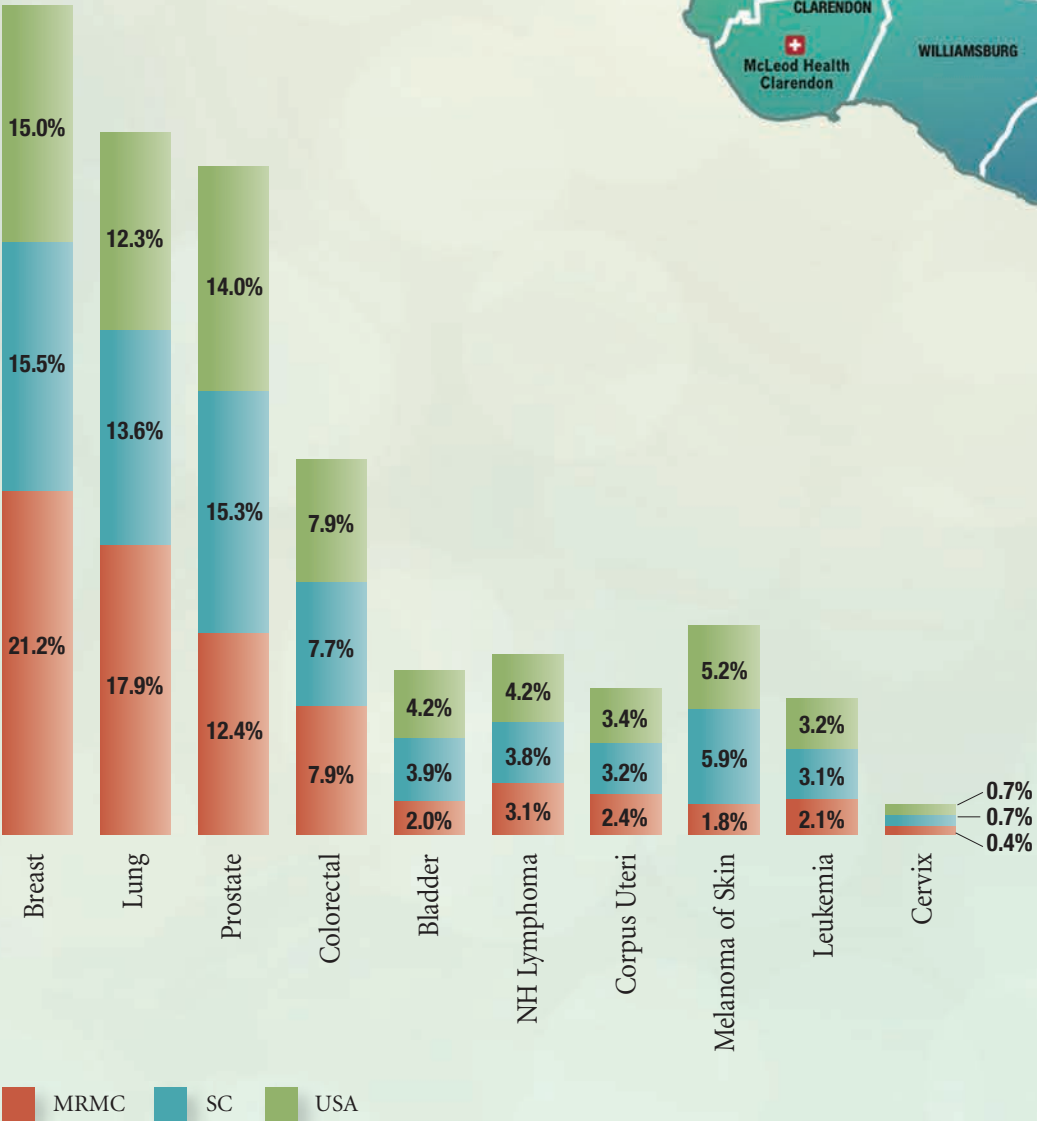
Most recently, the 23rd Annual An Evening of Hope raised more than \$148,000 to further assist patients through the HOPE Fund. Held in September at the Francis Marion University Performing Arts Center Amphitheatre, the event included inspirational video testimonials featuring Cancer Survivors Lynn Harrelson, Willie Vereen, Ginger Godfree, Johnny Echols and April Munn. Attendees were also entertained by the Atlanta Party Band, a dynamic ten-piece band who performed hits from all the decades with a special emphasis on the great party music of Motown, the 70s and 80s/90s party rock.



McLeod Physicians Dr. Davinderbir Pannu, Dr. Ravneet Bajwa, Dr. Tarek Bishara, Dr. Lisa Bishara, Dr. Rajesh Bajaj and Dr. Srinivas Kolla are pictured at the 23rd Annual An Evening of Hope Cancer Benefit.

## 10 Most Prevalent Cancer Sites

Source: America Cancer Society "Cancer Facts and Figures 2021"



## Five Leading Cancer Sites

Diagnosed at McLeod in 2021	
Site	Cases
Breast	369
Lung	312
Prostate	216
Colorectal	127
Urinary System	81

Total Cases: 1105 (63.5%)



# McLeod News

## LAKE CITY PHYSICIANS AND ADVANCED PRACTICE PROVIDERS JOIN MCLEOD HEALTH

McLeod Health welcomes physicians **Dr. David Moon**, **Dr. Daniel DeCamps**, **Dr. Stephen Askins**, and **Dr. Cody Anderson**, as well as advanced practitioners **Lisa Castles, PA-C**, and **Courtney Stanley, PA-C**, to McLeod Physician Associates.

These exceptional medical professionals continue to deliver the highest-level care to patients and the Lake City community with access to the extensive services of McLeod Health.

Appointments are offered at the office locations listed below, including the newly established practice McLeod Primary Care Lake City.

Existing and new patients are welcomed. For more information or to schedule an appointment, contact the locations below.

### McLeod Primary Care Lake City

Dr. David Moon, Dr. Daniel DeCamps,  
Dr. Cody Anderson, Lisa Castles, PA-C &  
Courtney Stanley, PA-C  
241 Kelley Street  
Lake City, SC 29560  
(843) 519-2399 • Fax: (843) 519-0234

### McLeod Family Medicine Johnsonville

Dr. David Moon &  
Dr. Daniel DeCamps  
355 South Georgetown Highway  
Johnsonville, SC 29555  
(843) 380-2000 • Fax: (843) 380-2014

### McLeod Primary and Chronic Care Specialists

Dr. Stephen Askins  
101 South Ravenel Street, Suite 300  
Florence, SC 29506  
(843) 777-7490 • Fax: (843) 777-7480



Pictured left to right: Courtney Stanley, PA-C; Cody Anderson, DPM; David Moon, MD; Daniel DeCamps, MD; Lisa Castles, PA-C; and Stephen Askins, MD.

# HERE FOR LIFE



When facing a cardiac health challenge, it is important to put yourself in the right medical hands. Our heart & vascular team of specialists combine cutting-edge technology with exceptional skill and expertise to handle even the most complex cases. You've got a lot more living to do and we can help you make the most of every moment.

**McLeod Health**  
HEART & VASCULAR



# McLeod Health

555 East Cheves Street • Florence, SC 29506-2606  
PO Box 100551 • Florence, SC 29502-0551  
Change Service Requested

PRSRT. STD.  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
PERMIT 600  
MYRTLE BEACH  
29577

