John Sealy Hospital modernization forges ahead

Modernization of John Sealy Hospital is expected to reach full completion in early 2020. The modernized facility will offer advanced health care services to mothers, infants and children and continue to specialize in the treatment of patients with major burn injury in the world-renowned UTMB Blocker Burn Unit.

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Miss an issue? www.utmb.edu/fridayfocus Submit a story: friday.focus@utmb.edu Friday Focus Team: Mary Feldhusen and Erin Swearingen
HOSPITAL EXTERIOR

Staff and visitors to UTMB’s Galveston campus have become familiar with the scaffolding that surrounds the exterior of the AB wing of John Sealy Hospital. Removal of the brick façade continues. Renovations to the north side of the AB wing are 90 percent complete. Removal of the brick to the south side of the AB wing is expected to begin during the last week of September. When both wings are finished, the hospital's new brick façade will have glass windows that run the length of the building and will complement Jennie Sealy Hospital.

In the event of inclement weather during construction, a variety of measures will take place to protect the inside of the building and its infrastructure, as well as to protect the exposed portion of the exterior and pedestrians.

HOSPITAL INTERIOR

The AB wing of John Sealy Hospital is currently under construction with completion scheduled for fall 2018. Once the wing is completed, the Labor & Delivery, Mother/Baby and Pediatric units that currently occupy the CD wing will move to the AB wing, while the Cardiac Catheterization Lab and the Blocker Burn Unit will move to Jennie Sealy Hospital. The Institute for Translational Science and the Center for Sleep Disorders will move to R. Waverly Smith Pavilion, and Correctional Managed Care Dialysis will move to TDCJ Hospital Galveston (see image above). These moves will allow construction on the CD wing to begin.

R. WAVERLY SMITH PAVILION AND THE EAST BRIDGE TO JOHN SEALY HOSPITAL

A first-floor entrance to R. Waverly Smith Pavilion via the Hospital Parking Garage tunnel is expected to open in September 2017. The street-level main entrance to the pavilion is scheduled to open in March 2018.

In late summer 2018, a public indoor corridor known as the East Bridge will open to the public and connect the pavilion to the second floor of John Sealy Hospital.
PATIENT AREAS

Elevator and waiting areas
Each floor in the modernized John Sealy Hospital will have beautifully renovated new public spaces. The future layout of these spaces includes a central elevator bank that opens up to a waiting area with two adjacent public restrooms.

The neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) will transform from an open bay concept that is currently filled with infant warmers to a spacious, family-friendly unit with 32 single family rooms, 10 double rooms and two quad rooms. Two new family bathroom and shower areas adjacent to the NICU will enable parents to stay overnight with their babies, if they desire.

NICU corridor

Common areas like the Debbie Reinhartsen Sheffield Family Resource Center on the pediatric floor will also receive a facelift. The Reinhartsen Resource Center is a place for families of patients to use the computer, relax and eat while remaining near their child. The renovated area will be larger and have additional resources to accommodate families.

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Most patient rooms throughout John Sealy Hospital will gain approximately 55 square feet by capturing space at the window area that is currently outside of the building, resulting in a 345-square-foot patient room.

Multiple floor samples were installed in high-traffic areas during the renovation. This allowed Environmental Service staff to evaluate how well each floor sample held up to heavy foot traffic before and after cleaning.

In total, the modernized John Sealy Hospital will contain:

- 4 maternal intensive care unit rooms
- 12 high-risk OB rooms
- 7 labor and delivery triage rooms and one observation room
- 4 C-section operating rooms
- 48 mother baby rooms
- 24 pediatric rooms
- 8 pediatric intensive care unit rooms
- 48 neonatal intensive care unit rooms, with a capacity for 60 infants
- Blocker Burn Unit
- 3 floors of unoccupied shell space for future growth
Annual Nursing Conference taking nominations for the RN Spirituality Awards!

The Annual Nursing Conference, hosted by the Institute for Spirituality and Health at the Texas Medical Center, is celebrating its 25th anniversary. The theme of this year's conference is “Compassion Fatigue: The Hard Work of Caring” and will feature keynote speaker Gwen Sherwood, professor and associate dean for practice and global initiatives at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Nursing, among other speakers and panels.

Each year, the conference concludes with the presentation of the Emma Josephine Loffelholz McMorris RN Spirituality Award to nurses who embody compassion, communication and a commitment to their field. Last year, UTMB’s Stella Turrubiate, Breast Health Center nurse clinician III, was awarded the spirituality award for her compassionate care and guidance to patients and their families experiencing a cancer diagnosis.

Nominations are currently being accepted for the 2017 RN Spirituality Award. Eligible candidates must display:

- **Spirituality:** Demonstrate an awareness of the value of spirituality in healthcare.
- **Compassion:** Demonstrate empathy with regard to all levels of diversity in others.
- **Communication:** Demonstrate the ability to communicate to their community the value of respecting the spiritual beliefs and practices of others.
- **Commitment:** Devote themselves to the caring of body, mind and spirit.

If you would like to nominate a UTMB nurse for the 2017 RN Spirituality Award, please send a nomination letter to UTMB’s own Bonnie K. Webster explaining how a UTMB nurse you know exemplifies the above qualities. The deadline for submissions is September 1, 2017.

The conference will take place October 20, 2017 from 7:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. in Houston. For registration information, the full agenda and list of speakers, visit [http://ish-tmc.org/annual-nursing-conference/](http://ish-tmc.org/annual-nursing-conference/).
**September is Suicide Prevention Month**

Each year in the United States, the rate of suicide rises. It currently ranks as the 10th leading cause of death in the United States, claiming more lives each year than traffic accidents and more than twice as many as homicides. As healthcare providers, we have a role to play in assessing, detecting, treating and preventing suicidal ideation in care settings.

**The risk for suicide includes; but is not limited to:**

- Mental or emotional disorders, particularly depression and bipolar disorder
- Previous suicide attempts or self-inflicted injury
- History of trauma or loss, such as abuse as a child, a family history of suicide, bereavement or economic loss
- Serious illness or physical or chronic pain or impairment
- Alcohol and drug abuse
- Social isolation or a pattern/history of aggressive or antisocial behavior

For help detecting suicidal risk factors:

- **Screen all patients** for suicide ideation, using a brief standardized, evidence-based screening tool
- Review each patient’s personal and family medical history for suicide risk factors
- Review screening questionnaires before the patient leaves the appointment or is discharged
- Use assessment results to **inform** the provider about the level of safety measures needed; don’t delay, escalate immediately!

The National Suicide Prevention Week is September 10-16, 2017. Additional resources can be found at the links below:

- [https://www.dshs.texas.gov/injury/EPI/Suicide2016Update.pdf](https://www.dshs.texas.gov/injury/EPI/Suicide2016Update.pdf)
- [https://www.jointcommission.org/assets/1/18/SEA_56_Suicide.pdf](https://www.jointcommission.org/assets/1/18/SEA_56_Suicide.pdf)

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**UTMB Cardiology performs first TAVR case**

UTMB’s cardiology team successfully performed their first transcatheter aortic valve replacement (TAVR) surgery this month.

The TAVR procedure is a minimally invasive procedure for patients with severe aortic stenosis who are at intermediate or high risk for open heart surgery. Similar to placing a stent in an artery, the procedure replaces the damaged aortic valve by delivering an artificial, fully collapsible replacement valve to the damaged site through a catheter. Once in place, the new valve expands, pushes the old valve out of the way and the replacement valve takes over the job of regulating blood flow.

In addition to being a less invasive procedure than open heart surgery, significant benefits of the TAVR procedure include:

- Less time in the ICU
- Shorter length of stay
- Lower risk of infection
- Less trauma
- Faster recovery times
- Lower chance of complications
- One-eighth the blood loss of conventional open heart valve repair

Dr. Uma Rangasetty, assistant professor and assistant director of catheterization laboratories, credits multidisciplinary teamwork for the procedure’s success. “I want to thank everyone including nurses, staff, fellows, the catheterization lab, cardiology and cardiothoracic divisions, anesthesia and hospital administration. Our team is looking forward to doing more cases in the future as this therapy becomes a paradigm shift in the management of severe aortic stenosis.”

*Pictured above: Dr. Adnan Khan, Dr. Umamahesh Rangasetty, Dr. Ghannam Al-Dossari, Dr. Patrick Roughneen, Dr. Pranav Loyalka (Memorial Hermann proctor) and Dr. Syed Gilani*
UTMB faculty, staff and students gathered outside across all UTMB locations to watch the solar eclipse take place on August 21, 2017. Some came prepared with solar eclipse glasses and happily shared their spectacles with coworkers, while others arrived equipped with pinhole projectors.

Special thanks to Andrew Maxwell-Parish, program coordinator of the UTMB MakerHealth Space, for hosting a “Solar Eclipse Watch Party” on the Galveston Campus. He created Texas-shaped pinhole projectors using the space’s 3D printer for all attendees. More than 50 people joined to watch the crescent-shaped sun on John Sealy Plaza, located between the Hospital Parking Garage and Sealy & Smith Parking Garage.

To view more photos of the Solar Eclipse Watch Party, visit UTMB’s Flickr page at https://www.flickr.com/photos/utmb/sets/72157687906236005/.
Dr. Grant Fankhauser has excellent interpersonal skills. He made sure all my questions were answered before he ended our appointment. I felt so comfortable and assured. (Vascular Surgery)

This was my first time seeing Dr. Adrian Subrt. I love him! He listened and he explained things well. He personally called with my results. I will tell my family and friends what a great doctor and office this is! (Dermatology)

Dr. Waheedul Haque is excellent! I recommended my daughter to him and she has been seeing him for a number of years. Then, at my request and despite not currently taking new patients, he accepted my sister-in-law as a new patient. She has been going through an extremely difficult time and he has helped her tremendously! Thank you! (Psychiatry)

Dr. Anika Bell-Gray is an excellent physician who I have seen for several years now. She is very knowledgeable which is important; but, more so she is compassionate, empathic, and understands the importance of communication. While she is a physician who is in high demand, Dr. Bell-Gray always devotes ample time during my visits, never makes me feel rushed, and always follows up very timely through MyChart or by phone. The clinical and administrative staff that support Dr. Bell-Gray are wonderful, too. They help ensure a great experience, and all have the highest respect for her—just like me! Thank you Dr. Bell-Gray for the exceptional care. It is both an honor and privilege to share my feedback with those in Friendswood and within the larger North Galveston County Community who are in need of a physician and expect the absolute best care. (Friendswood-Providers)

SHOUT OUTS!

Recent DAISY Award Recipients

Each month, UTMB partners with the not-for-profit DAISY Foundation to present the DAISY (Diseases Attacking the Immune System) Award to an extraordinary UTMB nurse. This award, given in collaboration with the American Organization of Nurse Executives (AONE), recognizes the compassion, bedside care and “super-human” efforts exhibited by nurses for patients and families every day.

June DAISY Award recipient, Lacy LeBrun was recognized for the compassionate care she provided a post-operative coronary artery bypass graft patient. She kept a careful eye on the patient, who was unstable and needed to return to surgery. Lacy kept a close watch over the patient and stayed by the bedside until the patient stabilized. Her teammates say she often goes above and beyond to help others during busy shifts. They also say she is protective of her patients because she expects the best possible outcome. Congratulations, Lacy!

July DAISY Award recipient, Andi Dewitt, and the PICU team summoned the Tooth Fairy last month for an 8-year-old boy who lost his tooth in a car accident. When the patient awoke, he saw a beautiful trail of “Tooth Fairy Dust” (glitter) that led to his gift from the Tooth Fairy for his lost tooth. The patient was so excited the Tooth Fairy found him. Thank you for your compassionate care, Andi!

August’s DAISY Award is Rebecca Travis. Rebecca was caring for a patient with a complex condition who had been hospitalized for a long period of time. In addition to the patient’s medical ups and downs, she was dealing with depression from being away from home and stuck in the hospital for so long. Rebecca acted as a compassionate friend to the patient and helped facilitate a trip outdoors. She advocated to the doctors and the care team, along with a respiratory therapist, who joined together to give the patient some time in the sun, enjoy the breeze and watch the seagulls overhead. The patient’s mood drastically improved after the trip. Thank you, Rebecca, for going above and beyond for your patients!