

# current

HEALTH ■ COMMUNITY ■ PEOPLE

*Riverview*

1912 • A Century of Caring for Our Community • 2012

WINTER 2012

**Joined at the Hip**

**The Doctor Says**

**Legacy of Leadership**

**Cancer Center  
Accreditation**



**OFF  
THEIR  
WALKERS!**

# joined at the hip

STRONGER, FASTER...TOGETHER

Together, Riverview Medical Center and Wisconsin River Orthopaedics have made the Joint Center at Riverview a welcome resource with a fresh approach and better outcomes for people who choose knee or hip joint replacement to improve their quality of life.

## A Patient-Centered Approach

"We've replaced knees and hips at Riverview for over 30 years, but the focus has evolved," explains Joint Center Coordinator Kathleen Schultz, RN.

"Our newest approach is geared to the multi-faceted perspective of the patient experience. The focus for everyone – patient, family members, friends, surgeons, volunteers, and every hospital staff member – is on the patient's wellness and mobility.

"You're not here because you're ill, but because you want to get better. The results are faster gains in mobility, a quicker return home, better outcomes and greater satisfaction," she says.

## Pre-Surgery Preparation

"Patient education before the surgery provides a head start," says Kathleen. "Familiarity reduces the level of anxiety usually associated with surgery. I answer questions about surgery, anesthesia, pre-surgery exercises, the hospital stay and their transition to home."

Susan Koralewski, 64, had been enduring pain for years because her focus – as well as that of the care she was receiving at a different facility – was on her spine. She was already depending on walking sticks to get around.

When her physician suggested they find out if her pain could be something other than her spine, she was open-minded. A simple injection into her hip gave instant – but temporary – relief from the pain. More important, it proved that her hip was the culprit.

But was it too early for surgery? "An anesthesiologist friend said, 'When you're living for your hip, it's time to get it done.'"

## GROUP RECOVERY STRENGTH

*"I was going through this life-changing event with others. We were together, and a community formed around our surgery events."*

"I scheduled the surgery almost immediately. The pre-surgery education session was exceptional. It helped to be familiar with the faces and places where my Wisconsin River Orthopaedics surgeon would replace my hip. My husband and coach, Larry, joined me and we knew ahead of time I was in good, professional hands."

With any concerns resolved, Susan had the surgery. "Immediately the hip pain was completely gone! So often we hear others talk about their experience with this kind of surgery. They talk about pain. They list all the things you won't be able to do. Our experience was the opposite."

## Group Recovery Strength

"I was not brought in for surgery and left in a room isolated," Susan recalls. "I was going through this life-changing event with others. We were together, and a community formed around our surgery events."

"Looking around, I could see the challenges and triumphs of others; we empathized and encouraged each other. I think all of this explains why I had such a remarkable recovery."

## Personal Coaching

Every patient has a personal coach: a spouse, family member, friend, or neighbor who checks in on you, drives you to therapy sessions, helps with errands, and provides moral support. "It's a small commitment with a very high value," says Kathleen.





Patients receive group therapy after surgery with the coaching of professional staff and loved ones.

Arnie Francis, 64, couldn't walk very far before his knee would swell up and ache painfully. He had lost the ability to attend the car shows he loves. He had his knee replaced last October. He says his wife, Helen, who served as his coach, was an important part of fulfilling that commitment, supporting him both physically and emotionally as she assisted him with his at-home routine.

"It's not about overdoing it, but doing as much as you can tolerate to make steady, gradual progress."

He describes the Joint Center's "river walk," a wall display where each group member marks his or her progress with moveable canoe-shaped magnets. "At first I didn't think much of it, but pretty soon I was thinking 'If the other members can do it, I can do it.' If you want your movement back, you'll do the exercises."

Along with his wife, Arnie's daughter, Kim Mahoney, was very supportive, and witnessed his progress. It turns out, she needed his inspiration. As a pharmacy technician, Kim, 36, was on her feet a lot and says the pain in her knees was intolerable.

"I'd come home from work crying. I've given birth three times and the pain of labor is nothing compared to that."



Lois Mancl moves her husband, Jim's, canoe along the 'river walk' to display his progress.

Kim had both knees replaced simultaneously. "After the surgery, sharing goals with other patients in my group kept me focused and supported me mentally and emotionally." She was back to work in eight weeks, walking – even challenging her kids to jog a stretch of country road for 50 cents. "My husband worries about how fast I go up and down the stairs," she says. "It just feels so good to be able to do it, I like to take stairs running."

"The payoff has been life-changing."

### Early Mobility

Nine years after his first hip replacement, Jim Mancl, 78, had his other hip joint replaced last May, this time using a newer hip replacement procedure with a smaller incision, less pain and faster recovery.

"It was really nice," he recalls. "I was already doing exercises with a group of other patients the first day after surgery. Everyone was great." Jim's daughter, Linda Nelson, had her knee replaced last September.

"My job at Riverview Medical Center requires a lot of walking, turning, stairs and cart-pushing. I was going home in pain every time I worked." Back to work by December, Linda says the advance preparation, the approach of the entire staff, the encouraging moral support of her group and motivation from her family, including her coach and husband Ron, were all vital factors in helping her success.

"The staff is excellent – very personal. They paid attention to lots of little things to keep me more comfortable. I'm so glad I had it done."



### Joint Center at Riverview

715-421-7501 • [JointCenter@rhahealthcare.org](mailto:JointCenter@rhahealthcare.org)  
[www.RiverviewMedicalCenter.org/JointCenter.php](http://www.RiverviewMedicalCenter.org/JointCenter.php)



# A LEGACY OF **Leadership** AND A CENTURY OF CARING

## **A Community Endeavor**

In 1912, George W. Mead led a group of devoted citizens and local businesses in forming the Riverview Hospital Association (RHA), in an effort to re-open the doors of a 15-room hospital on the banks of the Wisconsin River – the humble beginnings of what is now Riverview Hospital.

Supporting the great need for a hospital of its own, residents of Wisconsin Rapids donated furnishings, linens, canned goods, jelly, milk, potatoes, and other staples to aid the hospital's needs.

## **Growing Needs**

When the growing needs of its community made it clear an expansion was necessary, RHA set a goal to raise roughly \$25,000 to build a larger hospital at the existing site. Leading the charge for the new hospital was a committee comprised of Mead, E.M. Pease and L.M. Alexander who intended to make the building “modern in every respect.”

With a majority of the donations coming from Mrs. Emily L. Witter and her estate, RHA met its goal and opened a new hospital in 1917.

The two-story, red brick hospital, with accommodations for 30 patients, thrived until 1940, when it again could not meet the growing demand for care. Mead, now president of RHA's board of directors, initiated a community collection campaign to raise funds needed in addition to the \$115,000 contributed by Consolidated Water Power & Paper Company.

Despite World War II and limited resources, the campaign was successful and an addition opened in 1942, expanding Riverview Hospital to 81 beds, two operating rooms, a delivery room, a laboratory, technical rooms, and dining and kitchen areas.

By 1960, due to technological advancements and a lack of space, board members and medical staff recommended constructing a new hospital with much of the funds provided by the Hill-Burton Act of 1946, which granted federal assistance to improve the nation's health systems.

## **A Fight to the Finish**

RHA still needed to raise almost \$2 million. In November 1963, 500 enthused citizens attended a community “Fair Share” dinner to open the public fund drive. Again, the community rallied to afford the advances; much of the funds came from local businesses and the Alexander and Mead families.

An open house was planned to introduce the new hospital on December 16, 1966, however, a fire caused \$350,000 in damages just a few weeks before, which delayed the opening until April 1967.

After repairs were complete, the new 144-bed Riverview Hospital offered “the latest facilities for emergency service, surgery, obstetrics, intensive care, X-ray, respiratory therapy, laboratory, physical therapy, and patient care.”

## Moving Ahead

The 1980s and 90s brought further growth starting with the community's pledge to support the "A Step Up - to Provide Appropriate Health Care for the 80s" campaign. Funds raised led to additional capacity and capabilities including a new critical care unit and physical therapy department.

The arrival of the Riverview Family Clinic came in the mid-90s. The first clinic opened its doors in Wisconsin Rapids in 1994. The Lakes Area Medical Center followed in 1997, and the Nekoosa Clinic location opened a beautiful new facility in 2003.

Since 2000, Riverview has made extensive updates to its facilities including an expanded emergency/ Rapid Care department and a new surgery center.

The well-being of Wisconsin Rapids area residents has always been Riverview's priority, which is evidenced by the continuous advancements brought to this community-owned medical center.

2012 marks Riverview's 100-year legacy of leadership and a century of caring for the community that has so generously supported Riverview throughout its history. ◆

*The first Riverview Hospital, circa 1912*



## IN YOUR WORDS *Jim Goodrich*

*A man with strong and meaningful ties to the rich history and long-lasting values of the Riverview community. At age 89, Jim recalls his unique beginnings, which led to his adoption by his father, Dr. J.K. Goodrich, a devoted physician and Riverview administrator.*



### Unique Beginnings

At 16 years old, Jim set out to get his first job. When told he would need his birth certificate, Jim went down to the courthouse. "They didn't have it," Jim recalls. So Jim called his dad, Dr. J.K. (Joe) Goodrich. "That's when he told me the full story of how I came to be adopted: 'I found you when you were one or two hours old.'" Starting in 1919, Dr. Goodrich was part of the Riverview community, serving as its administrator – as well as an anesthesiologist and radiologist. Jim was then told the story about how he came into his dad's life. "He said I'd been put into a shoebox and left on a fire escape at the hospital in the middle of December and he heard me crying. He told me, 'I picked you up. I wrapped you in a towel. I put you in the pocket of my overcoat and we went home.'"

Jim grew up with his mother, Dr. Elizabeth F. (Betty) Goodrich, father and older brother, Joe, who was killed during World War II in the Philippines. "We were raised as blood brothers." When Jim was told he was adopted, it was no surprise. "Joe was a better athlete and a better student," Jim laughs.

"I've lived a charmed life," says Jim. "I know that it was the people along the way – including my dad – that have been the greatest gifts." ◆

• KEY MOMENTS IN RECENT •  
**RIVERVIEW HISTORY**

**2002**

Full-time cancer care arrived in the community with the opening of UW Cancer Center Riverview. About six months later 1,000 supporters attended the grand opening celebration of the new UW Cancer Center Riverview, made possible by generous donations from area contributors.

**2005**

Riverview's Respiratory Care Department opened a sleep lab.

**2009**

Riverview Community Dental Clinic opened serving patients with Wisconsin Medicaid or BadgerCare Plus insurance coverage. • A ribbon-cutting ceremony was held with thousands of community members touring the new Riverview Patient Tower and Riverview Memorial Chapel.

**2010**

Riverview Wound Healing & Hyperbaric Center opened. • Riverview's Imaging Department deployed a new 64-slice, low-dose computed tomography (CT) scanner. • The Joint Center at Riverview introduced a new patient-centered approach for improved outcomes in joint replacement.

**2011**

Riverview Family Clinic significantly expanded its medical staff. With clinics in Nekoosa, the Lakes Area, and a newly-renovated clinic in Riverview Medical Center, Riverview Family Clinic now offers family medicine, internal medicine and obstetrics and gynecology. ♦



Riverview Hospital, 1967

**UW Cancer Center**  
*Riverview*

**Accreditation:**

**Better Resources to Treat Cancer Patients**

UW Cancer Center Riverview recently received the "Three-Year Accreditation with Commendation" from the American College of Surgeons-Commission on Cancer (CoC). The accreditation was awarded after a comprehensive survey of the Cancer Center in October 2011. The accreditation is given only to facilities that provide the highest level of quality cancer care and complete a rigorous evaluation of their performance.

**What the accreditation means to you**

By receiving this voluntary accreditation, UW Cancer Center Riverview will now be part of the National Cancer Data Base (NCDB), which tracks and analyzes all types of cancer. The data are used to explore trends in cancer care, and to create regional and state benchmarks that serve as the basis for quality improvement.

"Being accredited will help ensure that patients receive quality care close to home," according to Lori Smith, RN, Director, UW Cancer Center Riverview. "We will be able to improve performance based on nationally recognized quality measures and standards of care."

Accreditation also allows the Center to participate in special studies that are developed to address important issues in cancer care. For example, studies on the use of drugs as additional treatment for patients with cancers that are thought to have spread outside their original sites.

"We are pleased to receive this highly respected accreditation," said Smith. "It is a reflection of the strong commitment our team of physicians, surgeons, oncologists, radiologists and nurses have to providing compassionate, comprehensive cancer care."

**Jayzon Martonito, M.D.**  
*specializes in family practice  
at Riverview Family Clinic Lakes*

**Q.** You recently joined Riverview Family Clinic in August; are you originally from the area?

**A.** Actually, I was born and raised in the Philippines. My wife and I moved to the U.S. in 2008 when I did my residency in West Virginia.

**Q.** What led you to the Wisconsin Rapids area?

**A.** My wife is also a physician. We were excited to join Riverview because we both came from a small city in the Philippines, so we wanted to live and work in a tight-knit community. We really like the small-town setting here.

*“Everyone is so friendly and welcoming.”*

**Q.** Did you always want to be a doctor?

**A.** As a matter of fact, I did. I think it was because my mom was always saying, ‘My son is going to be a doctor someday so he can help make people better.’ So, from little on, that’s what I wanted to be. I became the first doctor in my family.

**Q.** Who has had the biggest impact on your life?

**A.** My mom was definitely the biggest influence in my life. My dad died when I was three, and my sisters were 4 and 1, so my mom raised us on her own. She did everything she could to help us. If you base success on how her kids turned out, I’d say my mom was very successful. My older sister is a pharmacist and my younger sister is an accountant. My mom is my hero.

**Q.** Are there any memorable experiences that have guided you in your career?

**A.** When I was doing my residency, there was one cancer patient who really inspired me. Despite the challenges she faced with chemotherapy and depression, and other challenges every day, she came through and defeated all of her adversities. I really admire her for her strong will and determination to live.

That is what I want to see in all of my patients. I want to help them with their problems and medical conditions. I want to help see them through their adversities so they can eventually be happy with their lives.

**Q.** What would you like your patients to know about you?

**A.** *I want my patients to feel comfortable with me. I want them to know that I will be here to listen to all they want to talk about—whether it’s regarding a medical condition or just sharing a personal story—I’m here for them.*

**Q.** How do you think Riverview compares to other ‘big city’ hospitals and clinics?

**A.** Bigger city hospitals have a tendency to only address a patient’s medical problems. Riverview goes beyond that. It’s a much more personal approach.

**Q.** What do you and your wife enjoy doing in your spare time?

**A.** Since we just moved here, we’re looking forward to giving skiing a try. I think we’ll enjoy the snow. In the fall, we enjoyed biking and driving around the lakes.

**Q.** How would your wife describe you?

**A.** I think she would say that I’m a good listener... and compassionate. ◆

**Riverview Family Clinic’s three convenient locations:**

Wisconsin Rapids Clinic • 715-421-7474

Lakes Area Clinic • 715-325-8300

Nekoosa Clinic • 715-886-2100

**RiverviewClinic.net**



# Riverview

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On the cover:  
father and daughter duo,  
Jim Mancl and Linda Nelson,  
beat their battle with  
hip and knee pain.