

COMMUNITY *connection*

SUMMER 2024



EDGERTON HOSPITAL NAMED TOP
20 CRITICAL ACCESS HOSPITAL

6

**CUTTING-EDGE
ORTHOPEDIC SURGERIES**
Edgerton Hospital Partners
with Orthopedic & Spine
Centers of Wisconsin

2

**MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT IN
EDGERTON AND MILTON SCHOOLS**
Highlighting the work of
Therapist Krystal Lucas, APSW

3

EXPERTS IN WOUND CARE
Meet Dr. Bhanu Sankineni,
Certified Wound
Specialist Physician

4



CEO *update*

Edgerton Hospital and Health Services continues to grow and evolve, with the purpose of following our mission to serve our communities with exceptional quality, innovative health services and wellness promotion. Our dedicated team's patient-focused approach was recently honored by the National Rural Health Association (NRHA), who recognized Edgerton Hospital and Health Services as a 2024 Top 20 Best Practices in Patient Satisfaction critical access hospital! (Read more on page 6.)

Here are few other exciting announcements:

- **Commitment to meet community needs for Mental Health Services** – Mental Health Services was again identified as a top priority during our most recent Community Health Needs Assessment, so we continue to work to meet that need. Dr. Rene Buenzow, DNP, PMHNP-BC, APNP, APRN-BC, is providing services from the Whitewater Clinic and via telehealth. In Edgerton, we added an outpatient group therapy program called Senior Life Solutions. This program is designed to meet the unique needs of individuals, typically 65 and older, experiencing depression or anxiety related to life changes often associated with aging.
- **Tele-Endocrinology** – With an increase in diabetes, thyroid issues, osteoporosis, calcium disorders and adrenal disorders, Endocrinology is a much-needed specialty. Edgerton Hospital and Health Services is proud to offer Endocrinology visits (via telehealth) with Dr. Vijaya Vasudevan.
- **Quick Care in Downtown Edgerton** – Our new services, in a historical building, are off to a great start! The Edgerton Hospital Quick Care is a convenient, walk-in healthcare option for people who are dealing with non-emergency ailments and are unable to be seen within 1-2 days by their Primary Care Provider.

Now more than ever, we see the importance of providing access to diversified healthcare and wellness opportunities. As a community partner, we are committed to serving our region with quality, compassionate and patient-focused care in a comfortable and convenient setting.

All are welcome at Edgerton Hospital and Health Services. We are here to serve you.

Marc Augsburger, MBA, BSN
Chief Executive Officer

MEET OUR NEW CERTIFIED HAND THERAPIST

We are excited to introduce our new certified hand therapist, Jackie Roggenbuck. Jackie is an occupational therapist who's been committed to being a certified hand therapist since high school, when her father severely injured his hand. After accompanying him to his first therapy appointments, she was inspired by how therapists helped him regain function of his hand. She had no idea this career existed but was immediately convinced this was the right path for her.



Jackie has now been providing hand and upper extremity rehabilitation to patients for 17 years. Her expertise has helped patients gain improved function from tendonitis, arthritis, fractures, joint replacements, tendon repairs, nerve injuries and more. She works on the entire upper extremities, meaning shoulders, elbows, wrists and fingers. However, her passion lies in a unique piece – the thumb! Jackie says that her goal is “focused on getting patients back to doing the activities they love and the tasks they need to do. I work with patients to improve upper extremity function to do just that.”

Jackie also shares how you can help yourself and others: “Through prevention, treatment and new approaches to joint protection, we can improve function for our patients with arthritis. People often believe that arthritis pain is ‘just part of getting older,’ but it doesn't always have to be. I love when patients leave therapy surprised by the progress they are able to make.” Thank you for joining us in providing the best care for our community, Jackie!

CUTTING-EDGE ORTHOPEDIC SURGERIES

Edgerton Hospital is committed to providing quality care for our community in all areas. We have partnered with Orthopedic & Spine Centers of Wisconsin to provide on-site, comprehensive orthopedic care from four fellowship-trained, board-certified orthopedic surgeons who manage all orthopedic conditions. Dr. Brian J. Keyes, DO, is proud to provide orthopedic care on this team. He states, “Orthopedic surgery is one of the most rewarding fields of medicine. It allows you as the provider to drastically diminish pain and improve function for the patients we are fortunate to care for.”

With Orthopedic & Spine Centers of Wisconsin, Edgerton Hospital is able to provide many cutting-edge procedures, including elective outpatient orthopedic surgeries. Dr. Keyes further explains that “Edgerton Hospital has made a dedicated commitment to embrace some of the most advanced orthopedic platforms and equipment to ensure our patients are afforded the highest-quality outcomes while allowing the most up-to-date surgical approaches and techniques. Most notably, muscle-sparing anterior hip replacements and robotic knee replacements.”

Dr. Keyes says that Edgerton Hospital is unique in its level of comfort and convenience with “highly trained staff; very convenient, timely and efficient care; and excellent accommodations.” Edgerton Hospital is proud to offer such high-quality care to our patients.

ADVANCED ANESTHESIA SERVICES

Edgerton Hospital has a goal to provide anesthesia care that is ahead of the curve to improve patient outcomes. We are implementing new techniques including opioid-free anesthesia, advanced nerve blocks and short-acting spinal anesthetics with nerve blocks. William Gurske, APRN-CRNA, goes into detail about these cutting-edge anesthesia services:

Opioid-free anesthesia: “Opioid-free anesthesia is a multi-modal anesthetic technique, meaning we use small amounts of different medications that work in different ways to minimize pain, which also minimizes medication



side effects. We use opioid-free and opioid-sparing techniques here, leading to better patient outcomes and better pain control.”

Advanced nerve blocks: “We are administering advanced, ultrasound-guided nerve blocks to most of our surgical patients, especially with orthopedics. We perform preoperative nerve blocks so that patients can wake up after surgery with minimal to no pain, and this can last up to 72 hours.”

Short-acting spinal anesthetics and nerve blocks: “We are administering nerve blocks for all shoulder, hip and knee replacements. We combine these nerve blocks with a short-acting spinal anesthetic in the operating room. This combination of blocks and spinal anesthesia enables most of our total joint replacements to go home the day after surgery with excellent pain control.”

These practices have helped Edgerton Hospital provide safer anesthesia for patients to help them get home sooner. We have seen negative effects reduced greatly, and patients have more positive surgery outcomes with these innovations. Gurske looks to the future and is passionate about continuing to lead Edgerton in these advanced anesthesia services.

MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT IN EDGERTON AND MILTON SCHOOLS

Mental health matters, and we are proud to highlight Krystal Lucas, APSW, for her work in our local Edgerton and Milton schools. Krystal grew up going to Madison public schools, where she was incredibly grateful for the support of staff, social workers, and therapists. Her positive experience led her to pursue a career in therapy. After working for public schools and then in clinical psychotherapy, she found the perfect bridge with providing clinical services directly in the schools.

When Krystal moved to Edgerton, she saw that Edgerton Hospital was interested in a model similar to what she was doing in Madison. We are thrilled that she decided to lead the program, and Krystal was excited to be able to continue doing her dream work in her new community. This program provides psychotherapy support for students and psychoeducation to families. Krystal describes her services as “assisting students on skills development for body and emotion regulation, understanding depression/anxiety, working through grief and trauma and much more.” By providing therapy at the school, barriers such as transportation to therapy are eliminated, and Krystal can develop a partnership with school staff to fully support students.

While the program is new in Edgerton, Krystal reports “parents are already very grateful to have this easily accessible and are eager to get started.” She expects to see the same positive results she witnessed in Madison, where students were grateful to have a trusted adult at school



to talk to. In the future, Krystal hopes to hire additional providers so that each school in Edgerton and Milton can have their own provider. Krystal observes, “Our youth are struggling, and therapy waitlists are too long. Having more providers to meet the community’s need would be a huge milestone and definitely something to look forward to with the growth of this program.”



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We are hopeful for our community’s future with Krystal’s assistance, and Krystal is as well. She says, “I have been so grateful to be a part of this community effort to embed mental health therapy within the schools, and I can’t wait to see how it grows!”

EXPERTS IN WOUND CARE

At Edgerton Hospital, we are always striving to bring you the best care, which is why we're thrilled to announce that our wound care physician, Dr. Bhanu Sankineni, became a Certified Wound Specialist Physician last year. He describes the certification as a way to elevate his status as a specialist in wound care, provide special knowledge in wound management and promote quality of care in the field.

Dr. Sankineni has been a dedicated physician at Edgerton since 2016, and this new certification will elevate the already exceptional care patients can expect at our hospital. To learn more about this, we talked with Dr. Sankineni.

Could you tell us more about this certification?

Wound care certification requires special training, several years of clinical experience in the wound care field and also passing the board certification exam. And wound care certification exams set extremely high standards for professionals working within the wound care specialty. Due to rigorous certification requirements, becoming a Certified Wound Specialist Physician requires a lot of experience and a deeper knowledge of all aspects of wound care – from patient evaluation to management, ethics, anatomy, physiology, pharmacology and knowledge of various dressings.

How does this benefit patients?

Patients treated by a certified wound specialist over other wound care providers receive a high quality of care from someone with special training in wound care. Wound care certification makes sure providers receive continuing education due to their recertification requirements.

Physicians certified in wound care are up to date with industry best practices, practice medicine based on evidence and are aware of the latest research, guidelines and treatment options. Patients treated by certified wound specialists will have access to all resources related to wound care, compared to those treated by regular providers. Certified wound specialists help wounds heal faster and properly.



What are some common ailments that you treat, and what are some more complicated ones?

The most common conditions we treat at the Edgerton Hospital Wound Care Clinic are chronic, non-healing ulcers/wounds – such as venous stasis ulcers, diabetic wounds and other wounds such as traumatic wounds, surgical wounds, pressure injury/decubitus ulcers, etc. We also do wound VAC therapy.

Chronic, non-healing wounds, if not treated properly in a timely manner, can cause complications such as infection and sepsis, and the risk of amputation increases. It is very important that all chronic, non-healing wounds receive proper care – not just treating wounds but also addressing underlying conditions for proper healing.

What has your experience at Edgerton Hospital been like?

Edgerton Hospital is a great place to work. We have a great work environment here. We work as a team. Staff members are very friendly. All departments work together to provide the best care possible. Patients are very satisfied with our care.



Questions?

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aheiden@edgertonhospital.com

FRIDAY, JUNE 28TH • 2024 • 6-8 pm

**Edgerton Hospital Healing Garden
11101 N. Sherman Rd, Edgerton, WI**

A groovy evening of far out music,
food and beverages in the hippest garden around.

Take a trip back to the era of Woodstock,
bell bottoms and Volkswagen vans.

Help us raise funds for EHHS Mental Health
programs. It'll be a real blast, man.

Get your tickets today!

www.edgertonhospital.com/foundation/fundraising-events/



EDGERTON HOSPITAL NAMED TOP 20 CRITICAL ACCESS HOSPITAL



We are thrilled to share that Edgerton Hospital and Health Services has been awarded a 2024 Top 20 Best Practices in Patient Satisfaction designation from the National Rural Health Association (NRHA). This means Edgerton Hospital was ranked in the top 20 of critical access hospitals across the USA in patient satisfaction.

Edgerton Hospital and Health Services President and CEO Marc Augsburger credited his staff for this national recognition. “We are honored to receive this award from the National Rural Health Association regarding our practices in patient care, quality and satisfaction. I’m so proud of our staff! This award is a reflection of our team’s dedication to providing patient-focused care each and every day.”

In September, Edgerton Hospital will be recognized by the NHRA along with the other Top 20 facilities at the 2024 Critical Access Hospital Conference in Kansas City, Missouri. We look forward to continuing our best practices and providing top-quality care to our community.

SO, WHY A HEALING GARDEN?

By Mark Dwyer

This is not an unusual question and is certainly warranted when you consider the space, time and funding involved with creating, maintaining and improving a dynamic space such as our 3-acre healing garden. Originally envisioned as part of the new campus in 2010, the garden was intentionally nestled in the embrace of the medical-surgical wing recovery rooms and therapy wing. While “rooms with a view” was certainly a goal in terms of passive use, the intention of more active immersion out in the garden was envisioned and continues to be a primary focus in the garden, now going on 13 years old!

So, why bother having an intensive garden when a couple of trees and benches will do? It is important to mention that, while the intention of the garden revolved heavily around patient use, there has always been strong encouragement for staff, visitors and the general community to also come and enjoy the space. Granted, we are always excited to offer a wide range of colorful plant material with a strong sensory focus and will continue to develop plant collections with our visitors in mind. Our garden is also focused on providing support for area wildlife, particularly pollinators.

With a focus on accessibility and sensory engagement, this particular garden offers more than just beauty. It is a space for calming, reflection, gathering, sensory engagement, rehabilitation, anxiety reduction, and exercise and is also an escape from the stresses of the adjacent clinical areas (for patients and staff alike). Research has shown that proximity to a healing garden, experienced both passively and actively, reduces recovery times, lessens medication needs, improves the patient experience and so much more.



While it’s tough to quantify the value of a healing garden, a beautiful, engaging space certainly benefits not only spiritual and emotional health but physical and neurological health as well. A recent study indicates that for every \$1.31 spent on garden care in these settings, there is a savings of \$6.56 in expenses for traditional care. Famous landscape architect Frederick Law Olmsted was quoted as saying, “Beautiful scenery employs the mind without fatigue and yet exercises it, tranquilizes it and yet enlivens it, and thus, through the influence of the mind and body, gives the effect of refreshing rest and re-invigoration to the whole system.”



AND HEALTH SERVICES

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ACHTUNG: Wenn Sie Deutsch sprechen, stehen Ihnen kostenlos sprachliche Hilfsdienstleistungen zur Verfügung. Rufnummer: 1-608-884-3441.

NOW OPEN!

Quality & Convenient Care – Quick!

Edgerton Hospital's Quick Care is a walk-in healthcare option for people who are unable to be seen within 1-2 days by their Primary Care Provider.



Symptoms and health concerns that can be seen at Quick Care include:

- ▶ Respiratory – cough and congestion
- ▶ Minor injuries that may require stitches
- ▶ Sore ears or throat
- ▶ Mild to moderate flu symptoms
- ▶ UTI symptoms
- ▶ Pregnancy testing
- ▶ Eye redness, irritation, and/or itching
- ▶ Mild rash or fever

HOURS: Mon – Fri, 11 am – 7 pm



608-561-6680



4 Burdick Street, Edgerton, WI
Next to Edward Jones



Dr. Vijaya Vasudevan, Endocrinology, now offers telehealth visits for:

- Diabetes type I, type II
- Thyroid
- Patients who require surgical intervention will be referred to the ENT (thyroid) physician of their choice (hopefully that choice is Dr. Yaish).
- Osteoporosis
- Calcium disorders
- Adrenal disorders

Patients, call **608-561-6614** to schedule an appointment.

Referrals from a primary care provider preferred but not required.