

COMMUNITY *connection*

WINTER 2024/2025

MEET OUR NEW SPEECH- LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST

Introducing Edgerton
Hospital's Newest
Addition, Emily Kieck

1

JASON ZEINERT: FINDING SUCCESS WITH KANDU

Meet One of Edgerton
Hospital's Dietary Workers
and Learn How Kandu
Helped Him and Other
Disabled Individuals Find Jobs

3

ADVANCED CERTIFICATIONS TO BETTER SERVE YOU

Edgerton Hospital Staff Is
Certified to Provide the Best
Care for Our Community!

4



A TRIBUTE TO JEFF ROETHE
Founder, Edgerton Hospital Foundation

2



CEO *update*

Healthcare, just like the seasons, continues to change and move forward. As we approach the end of this year and the beginning of the next, the team at Edgerton Hospital and Health Services would like to reflect on the many things we have to be thankful for.

A few of these include:

- **Advancements in Quality and Expertise to Best Serve Our Patients:** We have new and upgraded equipment! Our lab has a new analyzer. The Radiology Department has added equipment and now has a second radiology room. Thanks to the Edgerton Hospital Auxiliary and Edgerton Hospital Foundation, our Med Surg unit will soon have 12 new beds, which will benefit patients and staff.
- **Improving Access to Needed Services:** Diabetes, thyroid issues, osteoporosis, calcium disorders and adrenal disorders are becoming more common in our country and community. Edgerton Hospital and Health Services is proud to continue to offer Endocrinology visits via telehealth with Dr. Vijaya Vasudevan.

- **Our Foundation and Auxiliary:** Both groups have worked diligently to support the needs of our hospital and community. Through fundraisers and services, the Foundation and Auxiliary are invaluable to EHHS.
- **Our group therapy program for seniors,** Senior Life Solutions, is on-site at Edgerton Hospital. This program works to assist and empower seniors dealing with anxiety, depression, loneliness, grief or other behavioral health challenges.
- **Our Team:** Our team’s patient-focused approach and commitment to providing excellent care sets the tone for our community hospital.
- **Our Community:** We are here to serve you, and we appreciate the opportunity to do so. We also truly thank you for the support you show us!

Edgerton Hospital and Health Services will continue to follow our mission to serve our communities with innovative health services and wellness promotion. We are committed to providing the region with quality, compassionate and patient-focused care, in a comfortable and convenient setting.

All are welcome at Edgerton Hospital and Health Services.

Marc Augsburger, MBA, BSN
Chief Executive Officer

MEET OUR NEW **SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST**



Welcome to our new speech-language pathologist (SLP), Emily Kieck! When Emily first graduated with her bachelor’s degree, she wasn’t working her way toward being an SLP but was unhappily working for a staffing company. One day, she happened

upon an SLP job listing and knew it was the perfect job for her. She went on to get her master’s at UW-Whitewater and is now happily an SLP!

As an SLP, Emily provides a wide range of patient care. She explains, “I treat people of all ages with either developmental or acquired challenges with speech,

language, thinking, swallowing and voice. The scope of our practice is quite broad, which makes it such a fun field to work in.” She may work with a patient after they had a stroke, a person with Parkinson’s disease or in general helping someone gain back their strength from illness or aging. Overall, her goal is for “each person I work with to have improved their quality of life.”

We are glad that Emily is now happily working as an SLP and is part of our team. Emily shares her hope for each patient she helps: “My favorite success story is always the next one. I love seeing my patients succeed and reach the goals they set for themselves, and I’m humbled that I get to be a part of each person’s journey.” Thanks, Emily, for joining Edgerton Hospital and providing care for our community!

VISION. GENEROSITY. COMMITMENT.

Those three words sum up Jeff Roethe's legacy.

Jeff, who passed on September 29, 2024, was a well-known local attorney and family man. He was also one of the founders of the Edgerton Hospital Foundation and served on its board for more than 40 years.

In the mid-1970s, Edgerton Memorial Hospital faced challenges attracting doctors to a rural community. At the time, Jeff was a member of the hospital's Doctor Recruitment Association, and this experience shaped his understanding of rural health care challenges.

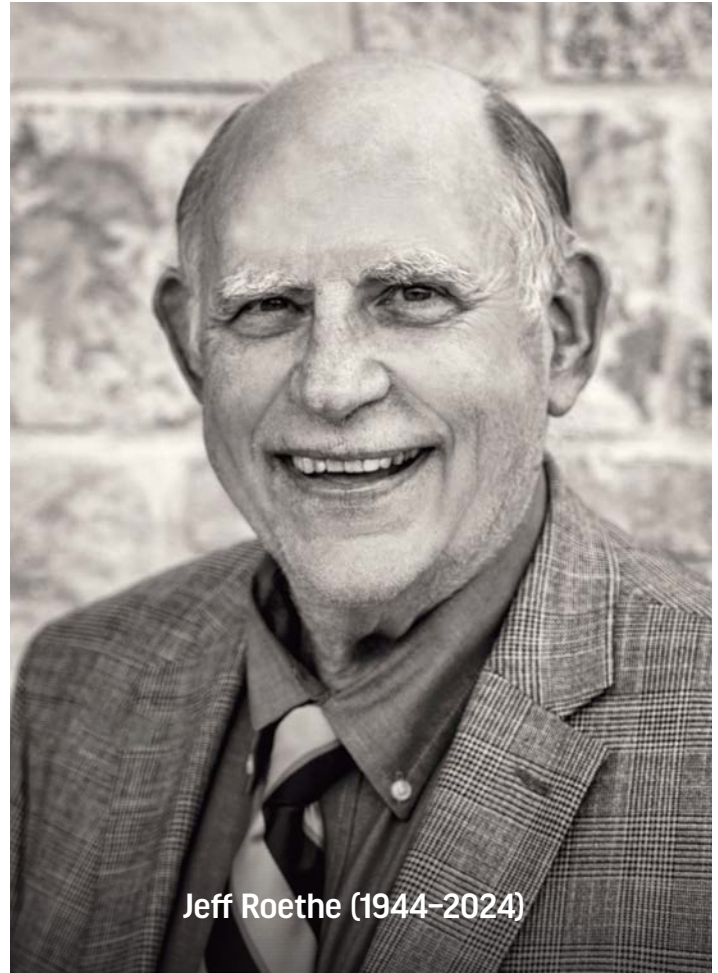
Jeff and the other association members knew that the hospital's future hinged on a solid vision, one that fostered long-term community relations rather than just addressing immediate needs.

With that goal in mind, on October 21, 1976, Jeff and a group of like-minded community members met to discuss the formation of a new organization: The Edgerton Hospital Foundation.

This new Edgerton Hospital Foundation would replace the Edgerton Doctor Recruitment Association but would continue its work. In addition, the foundation would help with the cost of increasingly expensive medical equipment and assist with building and remodeling projects.

The Hospital's Board of Trustees were told that the foundation would also "promote better relations between the community and the hospital." That simple statement was the heart of the Foundation. The community built the hospital, supported its expansions and was proud of the services it offered.

Over the years, rural hospitals struggled with everything from reduced Medicare rates, competition from larger health care systems and restrictive HMOs. Jeff was often called on to speak to reporters about the issues. When he did, he always stressed the deep bond between the community and the hospital. "Local people love their hospital," he told reporters.



Jeff Roethe (1944-2024)

Jeff's commitment to the foundation continued for another four and a half decades. Under his guidance, the foundation successfully funded critical medical equipment and numerous renovations, ensuring the hospital continued to meet the needs of the community.

Karen Greene, who served on the foundation Board with Jeff, described him as a "positive presence wherever he went." Jeff participated in all the foundation activities, from selling raffle tickets to timing runners during races. "He was generous with his time and support," Karen said, "He was instrumental in developing the Edgerton Hospital Foundation into the vibrant organization it is today."

For that, the foundation and the hospital couldn't be more grateful. We are thankful for his work behind the scenes, his active participation in events and his practice of – which we teased him about – always making the "motion to adjourn" at foundation Board meetings.

Generosity, a 40-plus-year commitment to an organization and a vision for the future – those were Jeff Roethe's gifts to the hospital and the community he loved.

JASON ZEINERT FINDING SUCCESS WITH KANDU

As part of our commitment to our community, Edgerton Hospital and Health Services has recently worked with KANDU Industries Inc. to hire Jason Zeinert as a dietary worker. Their mission: KANDU creates, promotes and provides diverse opportunities, offering people with disabilities or disadvantages the ability to pursue greater independence and explore their limitless potential.



KANDU's mission is about helping our clients strive for this important element of the human experience at the highest level possible..."

- **Linda Diedrich**, Kandu Marketing Director

KANDU's marketing director, Linda Diedrich, describes the importance of their mission. "Independence is something that many of us take for granted, especially as we grow into adulthood. It allows us to feel a sense of control over our lives, build self-esteem, make our own decisions, and pursue our goals, all important aspects of overall happiness and life satisfaction when in healthy balance. KANDU's mission is about helping our clients strive for this important element of the human experience at the highest level possible for each unique individual, ultimately helping them to reach their full potential in life."

ABOUT KANDU INDUSTRIES INC.

Our comprehensive structure includes programs that elevate social, emotional and physical well-being and increase independence for people with disabilities and disadvantages, an impact that extends far beyond the walls of our organization. We help our clients find purpose and place within



To help gain more of his own independence, Jason was able to find his job at Edgerton Hospital with the help of his job coach, Gail Waier. Gail knew Jason before he was a KANDU client, and once he became a client, immediately thought of him to fill our dietary work position. His success here has been great. Jason is known to bring smiles to everyone wherever he goes, whether he's gathering dishes from patient areas or working in the kitchen.

KANDU goes above just providing job opportunities though. Jason continues to receive ongoing support with a helper that comes weekly to assist him. He is most thankful for the support he received with daily living skills, such as going to the grocery store and meal planning. This helps him to be successful at home and at work – which we are thankful for!

Jason's excitement and care for his job is obvious. His favorite thing about his job? Jason says, "Working with the people. The staff is awesome! It's like family to me. I'm so happy!" We are also so happy to have Jason working for us and are glad to provide opportunities for people with disabilities through KANDU.

the larger community, changing perceptions and building bridges for people with disabilities to increase their independence.

KANDU's long-term vision is to continue expanding our services and modeling our programs to meet the evolving needs of a rapidly growing population of individuals with disabilities and dementia.

ADVANCED CERTIFICATIONS *to better serve you*



Dawn Main,
B.S., R.T.(R)(CT)(MR)(ARRT)
Medical Imaging Manager
American College of Radiology (ACR)
Accredited Facility



Bhanu Sankineni,
MD, CWSP
Medical Director of Hospitalists, Wound Care and Utilization Review
Certified Wound Specialist Physician



Kelsey Grove,
MS, ACSM-CEP
Cardiopulmonary/RT/Sleep Manager
American Academy of Sleep Medicine
Accredited for 10 consecutive years



Marc Augsburger,
MBA, BSN, RHCEOC
President and CEO
Rural Hospital CEO Certification



Jen Van Altena,
RN, WCC, DWC
Registered Nurse/Wound Clinic
Wound Care Certified, Diabetic
Wound Certified



Crystal Endres,
MSN, RN, CPNP-PC, CLC
Pediatric Nurse Practitioner
Certified Lactation Consultant, Vaccines
for Children (VFC) Provider

NATIONAL AND REGIONAL *recognition*

Top 20 Critical Access Hospital

President and CEO Marc Augsburger recently attended the National Rural Health Association (NRHA) meeting in Kansas City, MO, where he accepted Edgerton Hospital's award for being recognized as one of the 2024 Top 20 Critical Access Hospital in the country. NRHA's Rural Health Clinic and Critical Access Hospitals Conference offers rural health organizations a field of facility-specific strategies and solutions straight from the experts who cultivate them, with over 40 educational and networking opportunities. More than 650 clinic and CAH stakeholders attended NRHA's Rural Health Clinic and Critical Access Hospital Conference in September.



Finalist in Best of the Best – Janesville

On August 29, 2024, Marketing Manager Jason Hafeman and Clinic Manager Misy Cronin, BSN, RN, represented Edgerton Hospital and Health Services at the Best of the Best – Janesville awards event. Edgerton Hospital was a finalist in two categories - Best Hospital and Best Hospital Emergency Room. Each year, the Best of the Best – Janesville recognizes more than 540 businesses and organizations. The top three finalists in each category are invited to attend the annual awards program where the winners are announced. The Best of the Best – Janesville starts with public nominations to determine the top five nominees in each category, then voting begins to select the finalists and winners.



WINTER IS COMING! BEAT THE WINTER BLUES.

As the days grow shorter and temperatures drop, many people find themselves feeling more lethargic and down than usual. This is known as seasonal affective disorder (SAD) or the winter blues, a type of depression that occurs at a specific time of year, typically during colder months. While the exact cause of SAD is not fully understood, several strategies can help manage and alleviate its symptoms.

Light Therapy: Light therapy is one of the most effective treatments for SAD. It involves sitting near a light therapy box that mimics natural sunlight, usually for about 30 minutes each morning. This can help regulate melatonin and serotonin levels, improving mood and energy.

Stay Connected: Social support is crucial in combating depression. Try to stay connected with friends and family through regular phone calls, video chats or get-togethers.

Practice Stress-Relief Techniques: Activities like meditation, deep breathing exercises and mindfulness can reduce stress and improve mental well-being.

Seek Professional Help: If symptoms persist despite self-care measures, seek help from a healthcare provider. Therapy, such as cognitive-behavioral therapy (CBT), and medication can be effective in managing SAD.

WE CAN HELP

Our Senior Life Solutions hospital-based outpatient program is designed to meet the unique needs of older adults experiencing depression or anxiety related to life changes that are often associated with aging or a chronic diagnosis. Anyone can make a referral to our program, including self-referrals, provider referrals or community consultations.

Call us today at (608) 561-6660 to learn more!



THANK YOU! YOUR GIFT IS THE BEST MEDICINE.

Yes, I want to support our community hospital by donating \$ _____ (amount) to the following:

Hospital's Greatest Need Healing Garden

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

OTHER WAYS TO GIVE:

Visit edgertonhospital.com and click on "Make a Gift."

Scan the QR code to learn more, or contact Ann Heiden, Executive Director, (608) 884-1401, aheiden@edgertonhospital.com.



RECAP OF 1ST ANNUAL EDGERTON HOSPITAL AUXILIARY GOLF OUTING

Thank you to all our partners for supporting the first Annual Edgerton Hospital Auxiliary Golf Outing! With your help, we were able to raise over \$52,000 to purchase new hospital beds! These beds will greatly improve the comfort of our patients and assist staff members in numerous ways. We look forward to continuing and growing this annual outing in the future.

Save the date for next year's outing!
Friday, August 22, 2025



Scan the QR code to view our
sponsors and donors!



EDGERTON HOSPITAL *community extra*

Patient & Family Advisory Council

Edgerton Hospital and Health Services has created a Patient & Family Advisory Council (PFAC) as part of our commitment to providing better care and improving patient safety. Quality Director Jean Ann Schroeder is looking forward to improving the patient experience with this new council. She says, "By partnering with patients and families to plan better ways to provide care, we can improve health outcomes, reduce risks such as infections or falls, and prevent unnecessary hospital readmissions."

The PFAC will work toward creating better experiences for our patients and their families. Jean Ann's goal is to "develop tools and resources that patients can successfully use to plan for their hospital discharge and to care for themselves safely once they are home."

Interested in becoming a patient and family advisor? You can apply on our website: edgertonhospital.com

Edgerton High School Student of the Month Program

Edgerton Hospital is the proud sponsor of our local high school's Student of the Month program to recognize students who make a positive impact in their school and the community.

Mark Coombs of Edgerton High School shares how the sponsorship from Edgerton Hospital has helped the program: "Partnering with a local entity highlights the great relationships we have within the community. The program recognizes the great students we have at Edgerton High School and motivates other students to be kind, caring, compassionate students who enhance the overall high school experience in Edgerton."

President and CEO of Edgerton Hospital, Marc Augsburger, shares, "We are proud of the outstanding education students receive at Edgerton High School and fully support their quest toward achieving their personal and professional goals."



11101 NORTH SHERMAN RD.
EDGERTON, WI 53534

Affiliated with SSM Health

If you do not wish to receive solicitations of mailings from Edgerton Hospital or the Edgerton Hospital Foundation, please e-mail ehhsinfo@edgertonhospital.com or call 608-884-3441. 4227

NON-PROFIT
US POSTAGE
PAID
MADISON WI
PERMIT #2860

WE'VE GOT YOU COVERED!

We accept a variety of insurance plans:

Call the number on the back of your insurance card to verify coverage.



Community Connection complies with applicable Federal civil rights laws and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex.

ATENCIÓN: si habla español, tiene a su disposición servicios gratuitos de asistencia lingüística. Llame al 1-608-884-3441.

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

UPCOMING events

For more information on our community events, visit edgertonhospital.com

DECEMBER 2024

- Mon., Dec. 2 - Fri., Dec. 13**
Auxiliary Holiday Raffle
- Mon., Dec. 2**
Communication and Swallowing Disorders Common in Adults (at The Coffee Depot)
- Thurs., Dec. 5**
Communication and Swallowing Disorders Common in Adults (at Kickback Cafe)
- Sat., Dec. 7**
Breakfast with Santa
- Mon., Dec. 9**
Beating the Winter Blues (at Sharla's Coffee Stop)
- Tues., Dec. 10**
"Hips & Knees with Dr. Keyes" (at McFarland House Cafe)
- Thurs., Dec. 12**
Senior Life Solutions Open House (Meet our team and discuss ways to beat the Winter Blues)
- Thurs., Dec. 12**
Scoopie Day at Edgerton Culver's (Fundraiser for the Edgerton Hospital Foundation)
- Wed., Dec. 18**
Got Pain? Q&A on Causes and Treatments with Arpan Patel, MD (at Cambridge Market Café)
- Thurs., Dec. 19**
"Hips & Knees with Dr. Keyes" (at Janesville Senior Center)

JANUARY 2025

- Mon., Jan. 6 - Fri. Jan. 24**
The Auxiliary Book & Puzzle Sale
- Tues., Jan. 7**
Senior Life Solutions "Beating the Winter Blues" (at McFarland House Café)
- Tues., Jan. 21**
"Hips & Knees with Dr. Keyes" (at Cambridge Market Cafe)
- Wed., Jan. 22**
New Plants for 2025 (with Mark Dwyer)

FEBRUARY 2025

- Thurs., Feb. 13**
Blood Drive at Edgerton Hospital
- Wed., Feb. 19**
Gothic Gardening (with Mark Dwyer)
- Thurs., Feb. 20**
"Common Hand and Wrist Problems" with Dr. James Dahm (at Cambridge Market Café)

MARCH 2025

- Wed., March 19**
Using Native Plants (with Mark Dwyer)

THROUGHOUT THE YEAR

Free Fall Risk Assessment & Fit4Life (check website for dates)

APRIL 2025

- Wed., April 9**
Plants for Sensory Engagement (with Mark Dwyer)
- Thurs., April 17**
Blood Drive at Edgerton Hospital

MAY 2025

- Auxiliary Spring Plant Sale

JUNE 2025

- Fri., June 20**
Scentsation, Foundation's Annual Fundraiser
- Tues. & Wed., June 17 & 18**
Babysitter Training Course

JULY 2025

- Wed., July 9**
Staying Home Alone Course

AUGUST 2025

- Wed., Aug. 13**
3rd Annual Horticultural Therapy Symposium
- Fri., Aug. 22**
2nd Annual Edgerton Hospital Auxiliary Golf Outing